

An Alternate Middle Mile Fiber to Humboldt County

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Key Points to Remember

- The alternate fiber company is a wholesale company
- The alternate fiber company is privately owned with a North Coast focus
- The recommended build is an aerial fiber that hangs on PG&E right of way and will cost about \$9M
- The installation of a colocation point in Eureka is a regional asset

How we got to an Alternate Middle Mile Fiber

- CENIC study in 2003
- Humboldt County study in 2004
- Fiber study in 2006
- Goals of the middle mile
 - Provide redundancy for everyday communications
 - Increase opportunities for underserved areas
- Recent fiber failures have underscored the need for this redundant path

The Middle Mile Ownership

- For profit, privately-owned company
 - Local focus will drive unique goals to ensure that the community is served
 - Leverage local knowledge to catalyze growth in the first mile / last mile
 - Enable novel concepts like a municipal peering point where companies can interconnect and keep local traffic local.

The Middle Mile Customers

- The Ownership Model: a carrier's carrier
 - Focus on selling lit fiber to the communications providers
 - Think of the fiber business as a wholesaler
 - Individuals and businesses buy from the retailers who buy from the wholesaler
 - Connect to underserved communities
 - Grant money will investigate new interconnection points along the route eg. Willow Creek, Weaverville
 - Connect to large national fiber providers for transit

The Middle Mile Ownership

- Characteristics of a Carrier's Carrier
 - Deep understanding of industry
 - Regulatory
 - Operations and maintenance
 - Carrier-quality build
 - Solid financial resources
 - Viewed as a strategic business partner
 - In it for the long-haul

Middle Mile Facts

- The aerial route was recommended
 - A much lower cost in both time and money to build
 - Environmental concerns are mitigated
 - Save *at least* 18 months of time versus buried
 - \$9M installation cost vs. \$19M for buried
- East to Red Bluff on PG&E poles following Hwy 299
 - New colocation point will be built in Eureka
 - Can also hold muni peering point and provide a base for other local communications initiatives
 - Colocation point in Redding provides easy access to fiber interconnects

For your very own copy of the study

- Redundant Fiber Feasibility Study
 - <http://www.rredc.com/redundantfiber.htm>
- Or visit the RTC website and look at all the historical documents
 - <http://www.redwoodtech.org>