

TO: Fairfax Town Council  
DATE: October 5, 2011

Discussion and consideration of video services for the Women's Club

At its last meeting on September 14, 2011, the Marin Telecommunications Agency (MTA) designated a fund of approximately \$60,000.00 for the purchase of video broadcasting equipment for member agencies, including Fairfax. The fund would provide for low or no cost loans to member agencies which could contract with the Community Media Center Marin (CMCM) for design, installation and operation of that equipment. CMCM is the publicly funded non-profit Designated Access Provider (DAP) that MTA set up after receiving Public Access, Education and Government (PEG) funding grants from Comcast pursuant to the terms of the 2005 Franchise Agreement.

San Rafael and Mill Valley both used CMCM's services in regard to their video broadcasting facilities. I am informed that both cities were very satisfied with the quality and value of the service provided. At my request, on September 27th, CMCM Executive Director, Michael Eisenmenger inspected the Women's Club to determine the most efficient type of equipment for our needs. I am informed that he will be providing us with a proposal for our consideration as soon as possible.

I believe that the MTA fund is an excellent opportunity for Fairfax to propel its meetings into the digital age. Local residents will be able to view public meetings in real time as they are webcast or possibly broadcast live over their cable television provider. In addition, the equipping the Women's Club with this technology will boost this facility's value to other groups who may want to video conference their events or record them for rebroadcast. Given the limited amount of funding available, I believe that the Council should promptly consider applying to the MTA for this opportunity.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry Bragman