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**CITY OF VALLEJO HIRES PROMINENT MUNICIPAL FIBER EXPERT, JOINS NEXT CENTURY CITIES IN BID TO BECOME A LEADER IN HIGH-SPEED, AFFORDABLE INTERNET**

VALLEJO, CA – The City of Vallejo announces that one of the nation’s most experienced municipal fiber professionals, Jory Wolf, will assist the City in developing a Fiber Optic Master Plan and road map for Vallejo to be a technology leader in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

Currently the Chief Information Officer for the City of Santa Monica, Wolf has more than 35 years of public sector technology experience. During his tenure, he oversaw the design, construction and operation of CityNet, a municipally-owned fiber network providing high-speed, affordable internet access to public agencies, institutions, and businesses, which is also a key tool for economic development. Wolf’s work has been recognized by dozens of organizations, including the League of California Cities, the Public Technology Institute, and the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.

“Jory brings a wealth of unique experience to Vallejo in terms of how you build, operate and manage a municipal fiber network that will improve internet access and affordability, attract businesses and jobs, and generate revenue for the city,” said Mayor Osby Davis. “The City Council identified the development of a fiber network as a top priority in 2014 and 2015, and retaining Jory represents a significant step towards this goal.”

Wolf voluntarily met with City officials, staff, and the City’s Fiber Advisory Board in August 2014, to advise the City on possible strategies.

“Through broadband planning, the City of Vallejo is charting its course for a sustainable tech economy and improvements in health, education, public safety, mobility and wellbeing,” said Wolf.

The City of Vallejo has also joined Next Century Cities, a nationwide initiative that supports high-speed broadband access for community development. The organization has more than 80 member cities, including Palo Alto, Santa Monica, and Seattle. Next Century Cities shares best practices, encourages open competition, collaboration, and community self-determination in developing the necessary infrastructure for the next century.

“In the 19<sup>th</sup> Century, railroads were the key to growth; in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, it was the roads and highways. In the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, fiber optic communication networks will drive economic success,” said Deb Socia, Executive Director of Next Century Cities. “Next Century Cities is dedicated to helping communities thrive in the 21st century and we are thrilled to have Vallejo join us.”

In the coming months, Wolf will be working closely with the City of Vallejo as a part-time consultant to identify how to utilize the more than 11 miles of fiber already in the ground originally installed in the mid-

1990s to synchronize traffic lights. The existing fiber could serve as the backbone for a city-run internet service, providing high-speed internet and helping to attract businesses relocating from around the San Francisco Bay Area and Silicon Valley.

“As the chief architect of Santa Monica’s network, we’re excited to have Jory Wolf sharing that knowledge with Vallejo and helping us determine the best way to leverage our existing fiber assets,” said Vallejo City Manager Daniel E. Keen. “Vallejo is a place of tremendous diversity and opportunity – well-connected by road and water infrastructure to San Francisco and Sacramento, affordable real estate, and a burgeoning center for health care, high tech and advanced manufacturing jobs. Exploring possibilities for high-speed internet is yet another tool that will poise Vallejo to succeed in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century economy.”

In addition to Santa Monica, approximately 140 jurisdictions across the nation have some form of a municipal network, including Washington D.C., Ashland, Oregon, and Chattanooga, Tennessee.

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