

LibraryCrunch

Bringing You A "Library 2.0" Perspective, by Michael Casey

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Access to information is an essential building block of social development

Amsterdam, Netherlands, is building its own fiber network to provide very high-speed service to over 40,000 homes. The city government is not subsidizing this, but instead is simply acting as an investor. James Enck, over on [EuroTelcoblog](#), has this to say regarding the message that Amsterdam's effort is sending to other local service providers:

Not to put words in anyone's mouth, but I think the message is something like:

*It may be "your network" and "your investment" you are trying to defend, but your customers are our taxpayers, our society, and we have a duty to look beyond the next quarter and where our share options are at present. **Access to information is an essential building block of social development**, like access to water and electricity. Highly-contended DSL products with bandwidth caps ain't gonna cut it.*

Posted by Michael on November 3, 2005 03:35 PM | [Permalink](#)

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