

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL  
Resolution No. 279 C.M.S.

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**RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION TO AT&T's PROPOSED CABLE TELEVISION RATE INCREASE**

**WHEREAS**, AT&T Broadband has announced a rate increase for Oakland cable subscribers, effective April 1, 2001; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed adjustment reflects an increase in subscriber rates of \$1.57 for expanded basic service and \$1.00 per channel for premium service (HBO, Showtime, etc.) and other cable program packages; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the cable transfer agreement entered into with AT&T on February 16, 1999, AT&T agreed to address the rate disparity by suspending rate increases until June of 2000 or upon completion of the rebuild, whichever occurred first; and

**WHEREAS**, on May 23, 2000, the Oakland City Council adopted Resolution No. 75741 C.M.S. in opposition to AT&T's June 10, 2000 Proposed Cable Television Rate Increase of 4.05% to Oakland cable subscribers for basic service, expanded service and equipment installation services; and

**WHEREAS**, the rate freeze resulted in some benefit to Oakland subscribers, yet no advanced services are being offered and Oakland subscribers continue to pay a disproportionately higher rate for the services provided; and,

**WHEREAS**, AT&T has the discretion to defer rate increases as indicated by their decision not to increase rates in other jurisdictions where there is competition for cable services.

**WHEREAS**, the City Council strongly urges AT&T to take into account the impact of disproportionate rates on Oakland residents in determining area rate structures; and

**WHEREAS**, Oakland is currently in negotiations with AT&T concerning the renewal of the cable franchise, and considers that any rate increase should be suspended until such time as the franchise renewal negotiations are concluded; now therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**: that the City Council on behalf of Oakland cable subscribers, formally oppose the proposed increase currently scheduled for April 1, 2001; and

**FURTHER RESOLVED**: that the City Council requests that AT&T defer any rate increase until such time as additional services are provided to Oakland residents and rates do not exceed rates charged in neighboring jurisdictions and or a new cable franchise agreement is signed.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA FEB 13 2001 200

**PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING:**

AYES - Brunner, Chang, De La Fuente, Nadel, Reid, Wan and ~~Spees~~ - 6

NOES - None

ABSTENTION: None

Excused - Spees - 1

ATTEST:

*Ceda Floyd*

CEDA FLOYD  
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council  
of the City of Oakland, California