

February 27, 2019

The Honorable Anna Eshoo
241 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congresswoman Eshoo:

As elected officials, we are committed to serving the residents of our cities by ensuring the digital infrastructure of tomorrow is safe, reliable, and is accessible for everyone. Cities and counties are not only leaders in innovation, but also have an obligation to the public to ensure safe, equitable deployment, and fiscally prudent broadband investment to their communities. It is essential that communities maintain control of the small cell application and review process to ensure safe deployment of this technology and that everyone benefits. The Federal Communications Commission preempted this process in a rushed and overreaching manner. For these reasons, we applaud your effort in restoring authority to the rightful position of local jurisdictions and support the Accelerating Wireless Broadband Development by Empowering Local Communities Act (H.R. 530).

H.R. 530 would return local governments' ability to balance competing interests for the use of the public rights-of-way by overturning actions of the Federal Communications Commission in August and September of 2018. While we support the Commission's goal of ensuring affordable broadband access for every American, the Commission's actions do nothing to achieve that goal. It puts the interests of national corporations over the needs of our communities by making it impossible for local governments to manage the public rights-of-way effectively and equitably. It cedes control of local property to national corporations without fair compensation in return, and without taking into account considerations for closing the digital divide, public safety, public utility services such as water, sewer, and electricity, the travelling public, environmental concerns, economic development, and maintenance costs.

Your leadership in passing H.R. 530 is critical to ensuring local governments have the necessary tools to manage local public assets in a manner that balances competing interests while encouraging responsible deployment of wireless broadband facilities. Without this action, communities will face financial strain and potentially delayed progress in adopting to the FCC's overreaching actions. It is necessary for both industry and our residents to reverse the FCC's rules on small cells and restore local control.

Sincerely,

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City of Seattle, WA

Mayor Sam Liccardo
City of San Jose, CA

Mayor Ted Wheeler
Portland, OR

Mayor Glean Davis
Santa Monica, CA

Mayor Cassie Franklin
Everett, WA

Mayor James Cahill
New Brunswick City, NJ

Mayor Lee Brand
City of Fresno, CA

Mayor Alan Nagy
City of Newark, CA

Mayor Pauline Cutter
City of San Leandro, CA

Mayor Carolyn Goodman
Las Vegas, NV

Mayor Matt Watkins
Pasco, WA

Mayor Eric Filseth
City of Palo Alto, CA

Mayor Madeline Rogero
Knoxville, TN

Mayor Ethan Berkowitz
Anchorage, AK

Mayor Lyda Krewson
St. Louis, MO

Mayor Dana Ralph
Kent, WA

Mayor Marsha McLean
Santa Clarita, CA

Mayor Rahm Emanuel
Chicago, IL

Mayor Jason Snider
Tigard, OR

Mayor Jim Brainard
Carmel, IN

Mayor Paul Soglin
City of Madison, WI

Mayor Jackie Biskupski
Salt Lake City, UT

Mayor Victoria Woodards
City of Tacoma, WA

Mayor Denis Law
Renton, WA

Mayor Jim Ferrell
City of Federal Way, WA

Mayor Rebecca Erickson
City of Poulsbo, WA

Mayor Jonathan Chicquette
City of Normandy Park, WA

Mayor Bob Severns
Oak Harbor, WA

Mayor Nancy Backus
Auburn, WA

Mayor Robert McGarvey
Rancho Cordova, CA

Mayor Miguel Pulido
Santa Ana, CA

Mayor Lucy Vinis
Eugene, OR

Mayor Richard Cahill
Yarrow Point, WA

Mayor John Marchione
Redmond, WA

Mayor Ethan Strimling
Portland, ME

Mayor Michael Rawlings
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Mayor Steve Callaway
Hillsboro, OR

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