Across the country, people turn to the library to use Wi-Fi on their tablets, laptops, and other devices. Library users download job applications, apply for financial aid, seek health information, and communicate with family members, and all of these activities depend on a strong Wi-Fi signal. Increasingly, libraries also provide services that depend on Wi-Fi, like coding clubs for K12 youth. Libraries everywhere know that Wi-Fi throughout the library is not a “nice to have”; it’s a core community service.

With the commitment of the FCC to ensure a library budget of $2.30 ($5.00 for a selected category of larger urban and suburban libraries) per square foot, libraries can finally upgrade outdated equipment or plan for new construction. They have confidence that desperately needed support will be there.

It is clear for library comments filed, that the FCC should maintain secure funding through the full five-year budget period as adopted during the 2014 Modernization. Our communities depend on libraries, and libraries depend on that funding.