



Urban League of
Metropolitan Seattle

*Empowering Communities.
Changing Lives.*

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VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20554

RE: Applications of T-Mobile US, Inc. and Sprint Corporation, WT Docket No. 18-197

Dear Ms. Dortch,

The Urban League of Metropolitan Seattle is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization with nearly 90 years of activism and community experience in the heart of Seattle. Our work focuses on improving the health, education, employment, and housing opportunities of Seattle's African-American community, other people of color, and the poor.

As a part of the Seattle community, we are closely following the merger of T-Mobile and Sprint. T-Mobile is an important employer in Washington State, and their efforts to build a diverse workforce and play an active role in the wider community are noteworthy.

We view the proposed merger as a complementary asset to the work we do, as it will be an investment in people, in business, and in innovation. The New T-Mobile will employ thousands more workers than two standalone companies would have, and the New T-Mobile's plans to deploy a 5G network will spur job creation throughout the broader economy.

Low-income communities—whether urban or rural—typically cannot afford the costs associated with high-speed, fixed, in-home internet access. A 5G network offers a lower-cost option that matches fixed lines in speed and access—and represents the first real opportunity to bridge the digital divide for disadvantaged communities.

For the promise this merger holds for the disadvantaged and communities of color, the Urban League of Metropolitan Seattle encourages the FCC to move forward with the approvals necessary to make the new T-Mobile a reality.

Sincerely,

Michelle Merriweather
President & CEO, Urban League of Metropolitan Seattle