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September 6, 2018

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 Kansas City Area Development Council represents 18 counties in Kansas and Missouri and works in partnership with the public and private sector to attract new talent and businesses to the KC Region.

Central to any economic development project is providing suitable infrastructure to support growth. While in the past “infrastructure” has meant physical roads and bridges, these days it also must include the information superhighway—without high-speed internet, businesses will look elsewhere, and eventually so will residents.

We strongly support the merger of Sprint and T-Mobile. Sprint is a long-established company with deep roots in the Kansas City area, and we are pleased that this merger with T-Mobile will provide new opportunities for this longtime major employer and civic partner in the region to grow.

Importantly, this merger means that we will be that much closer to quickly unveiling a nationwide 5G network. This is critical to business and economic growth, not just in the two-state area we represent, but across the country.

I urge you to favorably consider the many advantages this merger presents. Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments in support of it.

Sincerely,



Tim Cowden  
Kansas City Area Development Council