



Hon. Ajit Pai

Chairman

Hon. Jessica Rosenworcel

Hon. Michael O'Rielly

Hon. Brendan Carr

Commissioners

Federal Communications Commission

445 12th St. S.W.

Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Mr. Chairman and Commissioners:

RE: Accelerating Wireless Broadband Deployment by Removing Barriers to Infrastructure Investment, WT Docket No. 17-79; and Accelerating Wireline Broadband Deployment by Removing Barriers to Infrastructure Deployment, WT Docket No. 17-84

TechLatino applauds the Federal Communications Commission on its continuing efforts in the above-captioned dockets to speed the deployment of wireless and wireline broadband services by streamlining and modernizing federal, state, and local regulations.

Broadband connectivity – both wireless and wired – is increasingly important to Latino communities. It creates opportunities to improve our community's quality of life, providing greater access to employment and education opportunities. We are proud that the Commission shares our mission to empower Latino's by bridging the digital divide. We support your efforts to promote the deployment of wireline and wireless broadband services by creating a uniform federal framework that precludes unwarranted regulatory barriers to investment in advanced broadband infrastructure.

Many states and localities have taken positive steps to update and streamline their regulatory processes. They recognize that the costs and delays resulting from regulation can often deter the deployment of broadband infrastructure, which is essential to expanding the availability of wired and wireless broadband services. In those jurisdictions which have simplified their regulatory processes new infrastructure is being built providing citizens with

improved access to broadband. However, the deployment of wireless and wireline broadband in other localities has been slowed by excessive and unwarranted regulatory barriers such as high or duplicate fees, long waiting periods, requirements to obtain redundant authorizations, and onerous restrictions delay deployment and increase costs. These burdens, in turn, impact where broadband is deployed both directly and also because providers' limited capital is expended in those high-cost areas, reducing the funds that are available to pay for expanding broadband elsewhere. For this reason restrictive regulation can disproportionately impact Latino and other minority communities.

TechLatino therefore encourages the Commission to adopt guardrails that limit the restrictions, fees and delays that are imposed on new broadband facilities. While TechLatino supports the Commission's efforts to simplify regulation, we also urge the FCC to preserve local governments' ongoing role in managing rights-of-way to ensure public safety and to recover their costs in overseeing deployment, while prohibiting duplicative fees and taxes, which disrupt efforts to connect all communities with advanced wireless and wireline broadband services. Federal action to create a uniform, federal regulatory framework will significantly lower the cost of deployment everywhere, spurring more investment in the infrastructure needed in our communities.

It is important that all Americans have access to broadband and the many benefits that access delivers. As wireless and wireline broadband continues to become more important to everyday life, TechLatino urges the Commission to continue working to promote deployment with the above considerations in mind. We look forward to working with you to ensure that connectivity reaches all Americans as quickly as possible

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Jose A. Marquez". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a small mark at the end of the last name.

Jose Marquez

CEO, TechLatino: The National Association of Latinos in Information Sciences and Technology