



MALHEUR COUNTY

COUNTY COURT

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September 19, 2018

Via Electronic Filing

Commissioner Brendan Carr
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: *Accelerating Wireless Broadband Deployment by Removing Barriers to Infrastructure Investment, WT Docket No. 17-79; Streamlining Deployment of Small Cell Infrastructure by Improving Wireless Siting Policies, WT Docket No. 16-421*

Dear Commissioner Carr:

The Malheur County Court urges you to continue to remove regulatory barriers to the deployment of new wireless broadband services because of the many benefits those services can bring to our community and others in rural America.

Our Oregon county is extremely rural, and most of the area is covered by rangeland. We have only 30,000 residents across nearly 10,000 square miles. Deploying broadband across our large but sparsely populated county will provide many benefits to our economy and residents, by helping to improve education and rural health care, making public services more accessible, and assisting the work of our public safety agencies. It will benefit our ranchers and farmers by providing them with many new technologies to improve crop yield and manage livestock. Enhanced connectivity can make our county an even more attractive place for families and businesses.

Building the network of wireless facilities that is necessary to achieve wireless broadband's benefits should be as streamlined as possible. Lower costs and faster action on applications to build those facilities will directly translate into better service for our citizens. However, high siting fees, lengthy application processes and unreasonable restrictions on how and where wireless facilities can be built slow and deter investment. Regulatory barriers imposed elsewhere deter investment in rural America.

This is why the Federal Communications Commission can make a real difference to the economy and citizens of our county, by setting guideposts for all localities nationwide that will reduce costs and delays and thus promote investment. We commend the FCC for its actions to date, and urge that you continue your good work to promote wireless broadband deployment and all of the benefits it will deliver.

Respectfully submitted,

MALHEUR COUNTY COURT

Judge Dan P. Joyce

Commissioner Don Hodge

Commissioner Larry Wilson