



== educate · engage · empower | hopkinton ==

December 14, 2018

The Honorable Ajit Pai, Chairman  
The Honorable Michael O'Rielly, Commissioner  
The Honorable Brendan Carr, Commissioner  
The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel, Commissioner

Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
455 12th Street, Southwest  
Washington, DC, 20544

Dear Chairman Pai,

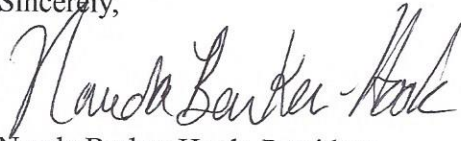
We write to support the Comments of the Cable Act Preservation Alliance ("CAPA") and to disapprove of the proposals and tentative conclusions set forth in the FCC's September 25 Further Notice of Proposed Rule Making in Implementation of Section 621(a)(1) of the Cable Communications Policy Act of 1984 as Amended by the Cable Television Consumer Protection and Competition Act of 1992, MB Docket 05- 311.

We are the Board of Directors of eHop, a nonprofit, nonpartisan civic league in Hopkinton, MA working to increase informed and active participation in our town's democratic process. Our democracy depends on public access to policy discussions underlying government action. Without community television, this access will be severely limited.

Hopkinton's community television station, HCAM-TV, plays a key role in making our town government transparent and accessible. They are the only source of live broadcasting of our Board of Selectmen Meetings, School Committee Meetings, Annual and Special Town Meetings, and numerous other government hearings and forums. They hold the only video archive of these meetings which they make accessible online. Without them, residents would have no video record of town policy and budget discussions and votes. In addition to their live broadcasts, HCAM-TV's video recordings are almost always the first public record made available following government discussions. Their quick delivery of information is essential to keeping citizens informed and engaged in timely matters. In contrast, it can take weeks for meeting minutes to be approved and posted publicly. HCAM-TV also broadcasts numerous community and sporting events (school concerts, high school sports, town celebrations) and helps local organizations educate the public about local causes. In doing so, they are creating a unique historic record of Hopkinton that will no longer exist if their funding is cut.

As advocates for government transparency and civic engagement, we strongly urge you to continue to support community media.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Nanda Barker-Hook". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed names of the individuals listed below.

Nanda Barker-Hook, President

Kristy Willadson, Secretary

Cindy Bernardo, Treasurer

Amy Ritterbusch, Director of Communications

Mary Pawela, Board Member

Tara Sanda, Board Member

Elyse Mihajloski, Board Member