



Federal Communications Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20554

March 8, 2016

**VIA ECFS ELECTRONIC DELIVERY**

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

Re: Measuring Broadband American Program (Mobile Collaborative), GN Docket No. 12-264

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On Feb 10, 2016, SamKnows, representatives of mobile broadband providers and other interested parties met in person and via conference call with Commission staff to discuss the plans and expectations for the work in 2016 on the mobile Measuring Broadband America program.<sup>1</sup>

Walter Johnston, Chief, EMCD/OET, welcomed participants and thanked the collaborative for their participation. Mr. Johnston presented details of the mobile MBA program for 2016 in a set of slides.<sup>2</sup> He explained that production of the first annual report on mobile broadband performance, similar in scope to the fixed MBA broadband reports, was the main goal of the mobile MBA program for 2016. The report will focus on data performance results and not involve mapping of the data. Mr. Johnston noted that the data produced by the mobile MBA

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<sup>1</sup> A list of attendees and presentation materials are attached to this filing in GN Docket No. 12-264.

<sup>2</sup> The slides presented at this meeting are attached to the filing in GN Docket No. 12-264.

effort is likely to be used by other bureaus within the FCC. As far as possible, Measuring Broadband America staff will align the data processing strategies used for data presented by the individual bureaus, but it should be understood that the final determination on how the data is presented is up to the individual bureau's discretion. It is possible that separate policies regarding data use may be imposed by each bureau.

Mr. Johnston explained early in the development of the Mobile program changes were made from the Fixed program, but as the mobile program has matured it is appropriate to align data processing and other aspects of both programs. He discussed that, as is the case with the Fixed program, going forward SamKnows will support access and analysis of Mobile data by carriers and other participants in furtherance of the program. Access to the Mobile data under these agreements will be subject to the non-disclosure contracts and other special restrictions on use of the data, including that it should not be publicly released without prior permission from the FCC. The program focuses on the public release of Open Data but, consistent with the experience in the Fixed program, formal support and opportunity for non-public review of the data in advance of Report and Open dataset releases, access by research platforms, carriers and other participants can provide valuable feedback benefiting the program. Mr. Johnson described at least two benefits to the two-pronged mobile broadband data dissemination process: development and refinement of data processing and filtering rules and techniques consistent with good engineering and scientific practice; and the ability to disseminate high quality, valuable data to the general public. FCC staff and SamKnows will continue to facilitate the active participation from mobile carriers and other participants in determining how best to process the mobile broadband measurement parameters that are collected. Mr. Johnston reiterated the key goal of the MBA program is to create a statistically sound set of measurement metrics that provide consumers with good information so that they can make informed decisions regarding their plan choices. He noted that the program would respond to changes in the kinds of information consumers need as well as how information should be reported (e.g., whether as a mean, median or range of values) reflected by ongoing academic, industry and regulatory work, such as following efforts of the Open Internet Order.

Mr. Johnston thanked all the participants for their attendance and invited their continued attendance for future meetings.

Sincerely,

/s/ Rajender Razdan

Rajender Razdan, Electronics Engineer  
Electromagnetic Compatibility Division/OET  
Federal Communications Commission