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"Rolling Plains and Beautiful Fields"

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**PLAINFIELD CHARTER TOWNSHIP**

Commission Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street-SW  
Washington, DC 20554

March 5, 2009

RE: CSR-8126 (ACM *et al.*) – MB Docket No. 09-13

Dear Secretary:

I am the newly elected Plainfield Charter Township Clerk. As I campaigned this past summer and fall, one of the most often topics was transparency in government. The general feeling of many the voters in Plainfield Charter Township is that government, all government, makes decisions through back room deals. The ability to view governments in action through Public, Education and Government (PEG) programming on cable television systems opens a window into local government.

In the past these channels have broadcast to residents in specific municipal boundaries and at times that might limit the ability for the public to access the meetings being broadcast. These limited boundaries prevent access to this content to only those subscribing to the franchise cable television company in a single community.

I was offered an opportunity to view the latest technology available to residents in our community, AT&T U-verse television. I observed the ability to provide our residents with access to public programming from an entire region. There are many reasons our residents have a desire to view governments in action in surrounding communities, they send their children to schools in other communities, their business may be located in multiple communities and they may have elderly parents that they care for in those communities. The demonstration I viewed uses the latest technologies to give people the ability to view the actions of government and school boards at times convenient to them. This technology is present today in our community and is already giving these benefits to AT&T U-verse customers.

Prior to being elected to my current position, I worked for the State of Michigan Department of Information Technology. I was involved in the research, development, installation, maintenance and delivery of the infrastructure that delivers these new technologies to state departments. Prior to becoming a member of the Department of Information Technology, I worked for the Michigan Department of Management and Budget Office of Computing and Telecommunications. We determined in the late 1990's that there were too many roadblocks and federal regulations to provide the State of Michigan with the bandwidth infrastructure needed to efficiently perform vital functions of state government. We built our own infrastructure that allowed us to become the leading state in the nation in our ability to provide networking to our citizens and government workers.

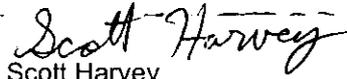
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The new technologies being deployed by companies like AT&T, Comcast and Charter Communications only improve the expansion of IP based networks through competition and benefit citizens heretofore denied the ability to utilize the benefits of high speed internet. I also have observed how rapidly countries Europe have surpassed the United States in the deployment of these networks. I was in Rome Italy on January 1, 2000 and I remember paying \$4.50 for 3 minutes to access AOL from the hotel kiosk. I have visited Europe every year since and have seen how the use of the internet has exploded there, even in remote areas.

It is vital for the economic growth of all Michigan communities to keep encouraging the advancement of technology, the improvement of infrastructure and the growth of our public access audiences.

Sincerely,



Scott Harvey  
Clerk  
Plainfield Charter Township  
6161 Belmont Ave NE  
Belmont, MI 49306

cc The Honorable Jennifer M. Granholm  
Governor of Michigan

James N. Norwood  
Spiegel & McDiarmid

City of Lansing, Michigan  
Teresa S. Decker

City of Dearborn, Michigan *et al.*  
Joseph Van Eaton

The Honorable John D. Cherry  
Lieutenant Governor of Michigan

The Honorable Andy Dillon  
Michigan Speaker of the House

The Honorable Michael Bishop  
Senate Majority Leader

The Honorable Michael Prusi  
Senate Minority Leader

The Honorable Bruce Patterson  
State Senator

The Honorable Dennis Olshove  
State Senator

The Honorable Kevin A. Elsenheimer  
House Minority Leader

The Honorable Jeff Mayes  
State Representative

The Honorable Kenneth B. Horn  
State Representative

Orjiakor Isiogu  
Chairman  
Michigan Public Service Commission

Monica Martinez  
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Michigan Public Service Commission

Steven Transeth  
Commissioner  
Michigan Public Service Commission