



County of Fairfax, Virginia

To protect and enrich the quality of life for the people, neighborhoods and diverse communities of Fairfax County

June 28, 2010

Julius Genachowski
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Mr. Genachowski,

On behalf of the County of Fairfax, Virginia, we respectfully submit our 700MHz wireless broadband waiver application. Fairfax County has long supported the need for 700MHz broadband wireless communications for our first responders as evidenced by our leadership in National Capitol Region's (NCR) 700MHz regional wireless broadband network program in 2005. At that time, Fairfax County, Washington, D.C and 18 counties in Virginia and Maryland applied for and received a waiver to launch the NCR's network. Due to the Commission's rule changes in 2007, Fairfax County was not able to deploy the network in our jurisdiction. Nevertheless, our collective efforts resulted in the nation's first 700MHz wireless broadband network in Washington, D.C. This network is considered the model for the nation and is consistent with the Commission's recently released National Broadband Plan (NBP).

We desire to finish the job we started in 2005 and as such we consider our previous approved waiver limited authorization to proceed, pending our ability to deploy consistent with the plans established today. We will be applying for the NTIA ARRA BTOP 700MHz PS funding to fund our network citing our previously approved waiver as sufficient authorization to qualify for funding. We desire for the Commission to support us in this effort. As you know, Washington, D.C., has been granted a waiver to continue our collective program and we seek the same authorization afforded to our regional partner and thereby establish seamless interoperable networks that can be shared and efficiently designed to save time and money.

We appreciate the Commission's ongoing efforts to address this critical need for our County, Region and Country. We stand ready to deploy, manage and operate our network and we look forward to working closely with the Commission to reach our goals.

Sincerely,

Anthony H. Griffin
County Executive

Cc: David Molchany, Deputy County Executive
Wanda Gibson, Director, Department of Information Technology