



STATE OF WASHINGTON

DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION SERVICES

Olympia, Washington 98504-2445

July 28, 2010

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

RE: Ex Parte Communication on A National Broadband Plan for Our Future - GN Docket No. 09-51; E-rate Broadband NPRM - CC Docket No. 02-6, Eligible Services List FNPRM GN Docket NO. 09-51; Rural Health Care Support Mechanism (WC Docket NO. 02-60)

Dear Ms. Dortch,

On July 27, the Department of Information Systems coordinated a meeting with Carol Matthey, Deputy Bureau Chief of the Wireless Competition Bureau and Rebekah Goodheart, Associate Bureau Chief Wireline Competition Bureau and representatives of Community Anchor Institutions at the Department of Commerce office in Seattle. During that meeting, Carol provided an overview of the FCC proceedings on the Universal Service Fund and E-rate program as well as an overview on the Rural Healthcare program.

Participants discussed the fact that in some cases the E-rate program isn't used because negotiations with private providers netted a larger discount. Members of education community also said they were not able to take advantage of temporary waivers allowing other uses for E-rate subsidized service because school budget cutbacks left them with insufficient staff. Representatives from Community-Based-Organizations (CBO) suggested revising E-rate provisions to allow for CBOs to staff school facilities as a supplement to existing services on a contract basis. School personnel were concerned that this kind of arrangement might shift funding away from already strapped schools.

During a discussion with state health service providers, they said that as the FCC reviews Rural Healthcare funding that 50 percent of the state's request for benefits come in on-line and funding for support centers for low-income folks including equipment and broadband access would be helpful. Healthcare providers also said that small clinics would not necessarily have the procurement expertise to use Rural Health care funds and non-profit clinics found it difficult to qualify for funds because of the requirement that there be no other commercial provider in that area.

Attendees were:

David Keyes, Community Technology Program, City of Seattle

Rebecca Sears, Research Program Manager, Technology and Social Change, UW Info School

Monica Babine, Sr. Associate for Telework & Digital Inclusion, Washington State University

Samantha Becker, U.S. IMPACT Research Manager, University of Washington Information School

Jennifer Brandon, Executive Director, Community Voice Mail

Jan Walsh, State Librarian, Office of Secretary of State, State Library

Ira Feuer, Chief of Technology, DSHS

Cynthia Torres-Jiminez, Director of Student Services, State Board of Community. & Technical Colleges

Gary Bortel, State Library, Office of Secretary of State

Jonathan Lawson, Reclaim the Media

Judge Donald Horowitz, Washington State Access to Justice Board

Jill Stone, Puget Sound Educational Service District 121

Susan Tenkhoff, OSPI

Angela Wu, Broadband Policy and Programs Manager, DIS

Frieda Ray, Broadband Outreach and Communications Analyst, DIS

Please let me know if you have any questions,

Angela Wu

Broadband Policy and Program Manager



Cc: Carol Matthey, Deputy Bureau Chief, Wireline Competition Bureau

Rebekah Goodheart, Associate Bureau Chief, Wireline Competition Bureau