

# ALA American Library Association

April 15, 2014

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

RE: WC Docket No. 13-184

Dear Secretary Dortch:

On April 11, 2014, Alan Inouye, Director, Office for Information Technology Policy (OITP), Marijke Visser, Assistant Director, OITP, Larra Clark, Director, Program on Networks, OITP, Charlie Wapner, Policy Analyst, OITP, and Alan Fishel, Senior Counsel, OITP met with Charles Eberle, Kate Dumouchel, Bryan Boyle, and Mark Walker of the Technology Policy Access Division, Nick Alexander and Jonathan Chambers both of the Office of Strategic Planning and Policy Analysis, and Jon Wilkins and Dana Schaffer of the Office of Managing Director, FCC. The following topics were discussed:

ALA proposed that the Commission designate a portion of the \$2 billion down payment toward ensuring library LAN and WiFi networks are sufficient for both public access computers and the increasing proliferation of patron-owned devices. ALA also proposed focusing a significant portion of the down payment on demonstration projects that yield a “two-for one” benefit for the Commission’s investment. ALA discussed three demonstration proposals from our comments filed in response to the Public Notice: a school-library WAN partnership, a scalable technologies deployment program, and a state-centric network diagnostic and technical support plan to encourage development of cost-efficient library networks. These demonstrations will increase library participation in the E-rate program; dramatically move libraries toward the capacity goal of 1 gigabit for libraries by 2018—if not earlier; and provide evidence for cost-effective practices that will ultimately lead to more efficient use of E-rate funds.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Respectfully submitted,



Marijke Visser  
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American Library Association  
Washington Office