



BRUCE RUDD
City Manager

August 25, 2014

Chairman Tom Wheeler
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn
Commissioner Jessica Rosenworcel
Commissioner Ajit Pai
Commissioner Michael O'Rielly
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: MB Docket No. 14-57

Dear Chairman Wheeler and Commissioners:

I write to share my thoughts and perspective on the pending merger between Time Warner Cable and Comcast. I am the City Manager of Fresno, California, which is the 5th largest city in California. Comcast has been a valuable community partner who has contributed to and invested in our City.

Improving critical infrastructure is one of the highest priorities of our city. The proposed merger is particularly interesting to me because Comcast has pledged to invest millions of dollars to improve existing broadband networks in the areas it acquires. Fortunately, we are a Comcast service area and the City of Fresno has been well-served by the quality of Comcast's broadband network. Our residents have access to some of the state's fastest speeds – most homes can reach 150 Mbps to 505 Mbps. Our businesses have the ability to purchase services ranging from 1-10 Gbps, giving us a leg up on other cities in the region in terms of attracting and retaining businesses.

Over the years, we have enjoyed a positive working relationship with Comcast. They have been a partner in expanding its broadband footprint in downtown Fresno, where we are in the midst of implementing a comprehensive revitalization plan. In addition, Comcast's Internet Essentials program has enhanced our locally generated content through the "Project Open Voice" public access pilot program. Expanded broadband adoption and increased digital literacy in our workforce will bolster the overall economy. A technology-educated workforce is critical as we compete to attract and retain innovative new businesses to our city. It also gives us the opportunity to retain more of our young talent from our local universities, including California State University Fresno. Earlier this, CSU Fresno's present, Joseph Castro announced a tablet program for university professors and students. Our local school districts have also begun tablet programs. Without the Comcast network, these tablet programs would not be possible.

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Comcast has established itself as an industry leader and wonderful community partner who invests in its local communities. Joining forces with Time Warner Cable will only enhance this effort and I support the proposed merger that the Commission has before it.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bruce Rudd". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "B".

Bruce Rudd
City Manager