

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

January 10, 2023

Jessica Rosenworcel  
Chairwoman  
Federal Communications Commission  
45 L Street NE  
Washington, DC 20554

Alan Davidson  
Asst. Secretary of Commerce for  
Communications and Information  
National Telecommunications  
Information Administration  
1401 Constitution Ave. NW  
Washington, DC 20230

Re: Deadline to Submit Challenges to the FCC preliminary broadband map

Dear Chairwoman Rosenworcel and Assistant Secretary Davidson,

Thank you for your ongoing efforts to implement our Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and expand broadband access in Georgia and nationwide.

The Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Program, as passed in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, is the most significant broadband investment in United States history. It lays the foundation for a historic transformation across the country, particularly in Georgia, where over one million Georgians lack access to reliable high-speed internet service.

We must deploy these resources expeditiously and accurately. The Federal Communications Commission has set a January 13 deadline to make corrections to the preliminary broadband map. Billions of federal dollars will be distributed using this map, and locations left off or incorrectly marked may not be eligible for federal dollars.

States like Georgia are working to share with the FCC the most accurate data available. If we are to succeed in our shared objective of ensuring that every Georgian and every American have access to affordable, high-speed internet, we must get this first step right. To do that, we ask that you grant a 60-day delay to ensure that all states, including Georgia, have sufficient time to cure the FCC's preliminary map and ensure its accuracy.

Attached please find 84 letters from leaders across Georgia including county and city officials, school superintendents, and senior elected officials of the state governments. Across Georgia we are united asking for this critical extension so that we can make sure every Georgian who needs access to high-speed internet can get it.

Sincerely,



Jon Ossoff  
United States Senator

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**Local Government**

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- Banks County Board of Commissioners – Charles Turk, Chairman
- Bleckley County Board of Commissioners – Mike Davis, Commissioner
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- City of Eastman – Spencer Barron, City Manager
- City of Jefferson – Jon S. Howell, Mayor
- City of Jeffersonville – Charles Williams, Mayor
- City of Perry – Randall Walker, Mayor
- City of Valdosta – L. Mark Barber, City Manager
- Columbus Water Works – Steve Davis, President
- Dodge County Board of Commissioners – Dan McCranie, Commissioner At Large
- Dodge County Board of Commissioners – Sharon Cobb Flanagan, Commissioner, District 1
- Dodge County Board of Commissioners – Conner Bearden, County Manager
- Jackson County Board of Commissioners – Tom Crow, Chairman
- Lowndes County – Paige Dukes, County Manager
- Macon-Bibb County – Seth C. Clark, Mayor Pro Tempore
- Madison County Board of Commissioners – Todd Higdon, Chairman
- Middle Georgia Regional Commission – Laura M. Mathis, Executive Director
- Monroe County Board of Commissioners – Gregory V. Tapley, Chairman
- Peach County Board of Commissioners – Martin H. Moseley, Jr., Chairman
- River Valley Regional Commission – Jim Livingston, Executive Director
- Town of Brooks – Maurice Ungaro, Town Manager
- Wilkinson County – Tracy D. Strange, County Manager

**Education**

- Columbus State University – John M. Fuchko III, Interim President
- Dodge County Schools – Susan W. Long, Superintendent

- Georgia Department of Education – Richard Woods, Georgia State School Superintendent
- Jackson County Schools – Philip Brown, Superintendent
- Jefferson County School System – Samuel D. Dasher, Jr., Superintendent
- Madison County Schools – Michael H. Williams, Superintendent
- Muscogee County School District – David F. Lewis, Superintendent
- Twiggs County Public Schools - Mack Bullard, Superintendent of Schools

## **Health Care**

- Athens Neighborhood Health Center – Marcus Garner, CEO
- CareConnect Health – Ajay Gehlot, Chief Executive Officer and Clinical Director
- Christ Community Health – Don Branum, CEO
- Coastal Community Health - Kavanaugh Chandler, CEO
- Community Health Care Systems, Inc. – Carla W. Belcher, CEO
- Center for Pan Asian Community Services – Seungjun Stephen Lee, Acting CEO
- Curtis V. Cooper Primary Healthcare, Inc. – Albert B. Grandy, Jr., Chief Executive Officer
- Diversity Health Center – Stephanie Jones-Heath, CEO
- Dodge County Hospital – Jan Hamrick, CFO
- East Georgia Healthcare Center – Jennie Wren Denmark, CEO
- First Choice Primary Care – Katherine McLeod, CEO
- Four Corners Primary Care Centers, Inc. – Brian O. Williams, Chief Executive Officer
- Georgia Highlands Medical Service – Todd Shifflet, CEO
- Georgia Primary Care Association – Duane A. Kavka, CEO
- Good Samaritan Health & Wellness Center – Tammi Sorrells, CEO
- HEALing Community Center – Donald E. Usher, Chief Executive Officer
- J. C. Lewis Primary Health Care Center – Rena Douse, CEO
- MedCura Health – Jeff Taylor, Chief Executive Officer
- Medical Associates Plus – J.R. Richards, CEO
- MedLink Georgia – Dave Ward, CEO and President
- McKinney Medical Center, Inc. – Ola A. Smith-Carter, CEO
- North Georgia Healthcare Center – Suzanne Chovanec, CEO
- Oconee Valley Healthcare – Dave A. Ringer, Chief Executive Officer
- Primary Care of Southwest Georgia – Angie McVey, CEO
- Primary Healthcare Centers – Diana Allen, CEO
- South Cental Primary Care Center, Inc. – R.B. Tucker Jr., CEO
- Southwest Georgia Healthcare Clinics – Donna L. Williams, CEO
- Valley Healthcare System – Sarah E. Lang, CEO
- Whitefoord – Craig Tindall, CEO
- YourTown Health – Jon W. Wollenzien Jr., Chief Executive Officer

## **Associations, Nonprofits, and Private Sector**

- ACCG – Dave Wills, Executive Director
- Banks County Chamber of Commerce – Alicia Andrews, Executive Director
- Barrow County Chamber of Commerce – Thomas R. Jennings, President/CEO
- Chickamauga Telephone Corp. – Christa Alexander, CEO and Ali Alexander Phillips, VP of Operations
- Crawford County Development Authority – Tisa Horton, Executive Director
- Dodge County Eastman Development Authority – Robert Pruitt, Executive Director
- Dodge County Eastman Development Authority – Andrea McCranie, Member
- Dodge County – John M. Flanagan, Resident
- Georgia’s Rural Telephone and Broadband Association – Rhonda Chatham, Executive Director
- Glenwood Telephone Co – James T. O’Brien, Owner/CEO
- GMA - Georgia Municipal Association – Larry H. Hanson, CEO and Executive Director
- Jackson County Chamber of Commerce – Jim Shaw, President/CEO
- Madison County Chamber of Commerce – Anna Strickland, Executive Director
- Magnolia State Bank – Allen N. Long, Chief Lending Officer
- Public Service Telephone Company – James L. Bond, General Manager
- Stuckey Timberland, Inc. – Wade B. Hall, Chairman/CEO
- United Way of the Chattahoochee Valley – Jennifer St John, Chief Impact Officer



January 10, 2023

The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel  
Chairwoman, Federal Communications Commission  
45 L Street, NE  
Washington, DC 20554

The Honorable Alan Davidson  
Assistant Secretary and Administrator  
National Telecommunication and Information Administration  
United States Department of Commerce  
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Chairwoman Rosenworcel and Administrator Davidson,

I write to you today in support of efforts by stakeholders across Georgia to expand access to high-speed internet service, through broadband deployment, to the most unserved communities in our state. Households, small business owners, school boards, and local governments across Georgia remain concerned that the FCC Map fabric as it relates to Georgia is incomplete and contains numerous inaccuracies that will negatively impact the ability of our communities to receive much needed federal BEAD funding for broadband deployment. I understand that a process of challenging for the map is underway with a deadline of January 13, 2023, but more time is needed to ensure that the FCC's mapping properly reflects the areas of Georgia most in need of this funding.

For that reason, I join our state's congressional delegation, state and community leaders, and the people of Georgia in strongly encouraging the FCC to extend the upcoming January 13 deadline for submitting challenges to the FCC map.

Thank you for your full and prompt consideration of our state's request. I look forward to working with you to expand access to broadband service in Georgia.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B. Jones", is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Burt Jones  
Lieutenant Governor-Elect



# The State Senate

Atlanta, Georgia 30334

January 10, 2023

The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel  
Chairwoman, Federal Communications Commission  
45 L Street, NE  
Washington, DC 20554

The Honorable Alan Davidson  
Assistant Secretary and Administrator  
National Telecommunication and Information Administration  
United States Department of Commerce  
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Chairwoman Rosenworcel and Administrator Davidson:

I write today to express my concern regarding the FCC Broadband Data Collection deadline set for January 13, 2023, for the submission of challenges to the FCC Map. The Georgia General Assembly has dedicated significant time and resources to studying and building out broadband across our state, particularly in our rural communities. Beginning in 2018, this state launched the Georgia Broadband Program and in 2020 released a robust location-level broadband map.

There are significant differences between Georgia's maps and the proposals from the FCC and NTIA. There are likely over 200,000 unserved and underserved locations missing from FCC data. It is my concern, as well as the concern of the Georgia Senate, that the FCC and NTIA's challenge process to its map will shortchange the ability of our experts to submit bulk challenges to fabric and availability details.

I would ask that the FCC and NTIA extend the deadline for further submissions.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter and I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

John F. Kennedy  
President Pro Tempore



Jon Burns  
SPEAKER

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
332 STATE CAPITOL  
ATLANTA, GA 30334

404-656-5020  
404-656-5644 - Fax

January 10, 2023

The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel  
Chairwoman, Federal Communications  
Commission  
45 L Street, NE  
Washington, DC 20554

The Honorable Alan Davidson  
Asst. Secretary & Administrator, National  
Telecommunication & Information  
Administration  
United States Department of Commerce  
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Chairwoman Rosenworcel and Administrator Davidson,

Thank you for your work on broadband deployment across rural America. This work is of the utmost importance as we work to connect people through a technology driven world. Today, however, I write to express concern with the FCC Broadband Data Collection deadline of January 13, 2022, for challenges to the FCC Map.

Georgia has placed rural broadband deployment as a high priority over the last several years, creating legislation to enable deployment and a map that would give a better understanding of the real need in communities across our state. As you are aware Georgia's map is detail-oriented, depicting location-level data on served, underserved and, most importantly, unserved addresses of high-speed broadband. I understand Georgia has over 200,000 locations missing from the FCC Map as it relates to the Georgia Map and what appears to be locations with overstated service by many providers.

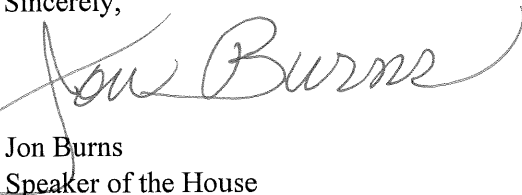
While the need for broadband is critical, it is of the utmost importance for Georgia and every state to receive adequate funding for actual unserved locations. Without an extension to the challenge, we feel strongly Georgia will not receive adequate funding to deploy high-speed broadband infrastructure to the most rural areas.

These missing and overstated locations are not merely dots on the map, they represent residents, students, business – the very people who have been without high-speed internet.

I join our state's congressional delegation and the people of Georgia in advocating for and strongly encouraging the FCC to extend the upcoming January 13 deadline for submitting challenges to the FCC map.

Thank you for your expeditious consideration and your service to our nation.

Sincerely,



Jon Burns  
Speaker of the House



## *House of Representatives*

504 COVERDELL LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30334  
(404) 656-0188 (OFFICE)  
(404) 651-8086 (FAX)

### **CHRIS ERWIN**

REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT 32  
E-Mail: [chris.erwin@house.ga.gov](mailto:chris.erwin@house.ga.gov)

### **STANDING COMMITTEES:**

**VICE CHAIR-** EDUCATION  
EDUCATION APPROPRIATIONS  
**SECRETARY-** INSURANCE  
INTRAGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION  
RETIREMENT  
STATE PLANING & COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

January 6, 2023

The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel  
Chairwoman, Federal Communications Commission  
45 L Street NE  
Washington, DC. 20554

The Honorable Alan Davidson  
Assistant Secretary and Administrator  
National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)  
U.S. Department of Commerce  
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC. 20230

Copy- The Honorable Jon Ossoff  
United States Senator for Georgia

Dear Chairwoman Rosenworcel and Administrator Davidson:

Having reliable and affordable broadband service is a critical infrastructure need for our community. Fortunately, the need to deploy broadband service has been recognized and assistance is on the way. Private investment like the partnership with Jackson Electric Membership and TruVista is bringing new broadband service to previously unserved homes and businesses throughout District 32 of the Georgia House of Representatives, including Jackson, Banks, Stephens, and Habersham Counties. This private investment combined with public funding such as the \$42.5 billion from the Broadband Equity, Access and Deployment (BEAD) program and other new federal investments will be transformative steps for our community and region as a whole.

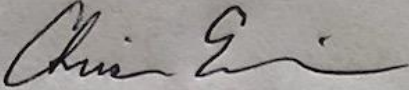
However, a January 13 deadline for challenges to the new, national FCC map is not enough time to ensure an accurate map to appropriately allocate billions of federal dollars. In Georgia, our Department of Community Affairs (DCA) has created a map that looks at served areas differently than the FCC maps. The current FCC maps look at Census blocks. If just one residence or business in the Census block is served, it appears the entire block is served. However, the DCA map is location based. This means that broadband service must be available in 80% of the Census block to be considered served.

It is estimated that using the current FCC methodology the broadband needs of 220,000 households, businesses, and other locations in Georgia are not properly reflected in the FCC map, potentially costing the state millions of dollars in funding.



This work is too important to the future of our community to rush. The COVID-19 pandemic amplified the need for broadband service as students had to learn virtually and doctor's appointments were moved online. Not having access to internet services puts our rural community at a disadvantage for economic development growth opportunities and negatively impacts the quality of life for our citizens.

We urge you to extend the deadline so rural Georgia communities can be properly counted and our state and local leaders can be best informed on how to allocate broadband funding.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Erwin". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent initial "C" and a long, sweeping underline.

Sincerely,  
Chris Erwin  
Georgia House of Representatives  
District 32



# Georgia House of Representatives

STATE CAPITOL, ROOM 401  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30334

(404) 656-9198

DON PARSONS  
REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 44  
MARIETTA, GA 30066

STANDING COMMITTEES:  
CHAIRMAN, ENERGY, UTILITIES &  
TELECOMMUNICATIONS  
APPROPRIATIONS  
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES  
WAYS & MEANS

12/27/2022

Chairwoman Rosenworcel and Administrator Davidson;

Over the last ten years, members of the committee that chair in the Georgia House of Representatives, along with extensive bi-partisan work and support from both chambers of the Georgia General Assembly, have seen the beginning of improvements in broadband deployment to unserved and underserved areas in Georgia. As you are aware, it is physically more difficult, more expensive, and financially undesirable for broadband provisioning by the private sector, seeking a positive return on investment for investors.

Correct, and effective mapping is a key element in determining how and to where any public funding is directed to incentivize broadband deployment in the aforementioned areas. It is my understanding that the FCC has produced a new broadband map which aims to show served and unserved area across the nation. A map, of which you may be aware, done for Georgia, by the State of Georgia, which uses census blocks to identify served and unserved locations is a tremendous improvement over the original FCC map. It is my understanding the FCC has produced a new map with deficiencies that would cause it to inaccurately, and/or perhaps unfairly identify served and unserved areas across the nation.

With potentially 220,000 unserved locations in Georgia missing from the latest FCC Map, the negative impact on attaining adequate broadband deployment and providing relief to the unserved locations in our communities would be significant. Because the FCC Map will be determining the amount of BEAD funds the state can allocate to bring high-speed internet to unserved rural communities, like ours, we strongly encourage an extension of the January 13, 2023 and June 30, 2023 deadlines to properly correct the locations that are not currently listed in the federal data.

Our unserved communities need broadband access quickly, but if the NTIA, for expediency's sake bases the states/territories' allocations on flawed data then our communities might be looked over again for precious and limited broadband resources. Thank you for your full consideration of Georgia's extension request.

Sincerely,

Don Parsons



Atlanta Regional Commission

January 10, 2023

The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel  
Chairwoman  
Federal Communications Commission (FCC)  
45 L Street, NE  
Washington, DC, 20554

The Honorable Alan Davidson  
Assistant Secretary and Administrator  
National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)  
United State Department of Commerce  
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20230

**RE: FCC Broadband Data Collection Deadline**

Dear Chairwoman Rosenworcel and Administrator Davidson:

On behalf of the Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC), I would like to express our apprehension over the current deadline for submitting challenges to the FCC map governing broadband data collection. The current process mandating a challenge deadline of January 13, 2023 does not allow adequate time for our experts to fully evaluate critical differences between the state of Georgia's maps and the maps currently proposed by the FCC and NTIA.

The pandemic showed us how critically important access to broadband internet is. When schools shut down, access to broadband allowed students to continue on their learning journey. When housing insecure families were faced with evictions, access to the internet helped them to secure the rental assistance they needed to stay in their homes. When the economy opened back up, access to high-speed internet enabled thousands to find new employment opportunities that simply aren't available to those without this access. While the lack of broadband internet is more pronounced in the rural parts of the state, there are still around 180,000 households in the 11-county region that do not have access to this critical infrastructure. In some neighborhoods, fewer than 50 percent of households have broadband internet, including areas in Fulton (Collier Heights), Clayton (Forest Park area), DeKalb (Chamblee/Buford Highway) and Gwinnett (Norcross area).

We respectfully ask that both the FCC and NTIA extend the deadline for further challenge submissions so we might all collaborate further to ensure no communities in both the state Georgia, and the nation, get left behind with this most critical infrastructure implementation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Anna Roach', is written over a blue horizontal line. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Anna Roach  
Executive Director & CEO, ARC

cc: Senator John Ossoff



## *Baldwin County Board of Commissioners*

1601 N. Columbia Street, Suite 230  
Milledgeville, Georgia, 31061-3365  
Telephone: (478) 445-4791  
Facsimile: (478) 445-6320  
www.baldwincountyga.com

*County Manager*  
Carlos F. Tobar

*County Attorney*  
David McRee

*Chair*  
Emily C. Davis, District 1

*Vice Chair*  
John H. Westmoreland, District 5

*Commissioners*  
Kendrick Butts, District 2  
Sammy Hall, District 3  
Henry R. Craig, District 4

January 10, 2023

The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel  
Chairwoman  
Federal Communications Commission  
45 L Street N.E.  
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Ms. Rosenworcel:

Re: Extension of the Challenge Period for the New FCC Broadband Maps

I am writing to request that the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) extend the challenge period for the new FCC broadband maps that were publicized at the end of 2022. Currently, all challenges to these maps must be submitted by January 13, 2023; however, given the importance of this issue to Baldwin County that deadline is too early.

The lack of high-speed internet is a basic quality of life issue that adversely affects hundreds or even thousands of our residents. Many schoolchildren in underserved areas have already suffered through the COVID-19 pandemic with an inability to access basic internet connectivity for their class work. Lack of broadband access can also impede the work of businesses and even basic communication among families and friends. Therefore, accurate maps are essential to ensuring that all unserved locations are included in the FCC broadband maps.

Statewide, there may be as many as 220,000 unserved locations. This is a tremendous amount of work to verify these locations and determine the validity of FCC data; this work is far too important to rush. Baldwin County is a Broadband Ready Community. The county received a grant to partner with Windstream to bring high speed internet to roughly 800 residents, but we are still unsure of the number of unserved members of our community.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact our County Manager Carlos Tobar at 478-363-1976.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Emily C. Davis".

Emily C. Davis  
Chair

cc: Hon. Alan Davidson, NTIA Administrator  
Hon. Jon Ossoff, U.S. Senator, State of Georgia



# BANKS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

---

Charles Turk  
Chairman

Danny J. Maxwell  
Member

Sammy G. Reece  
Member

Herbert Bo Garrison  
Member

Keith Gardiner  
Member

January 6, 2023

The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel  
Chairwoman, Federal Communications Commission  
45 L Street NE  
Washington, DC. 20554

The Honorable Alan Davidson  
Assistant Secretary and Administrator  
National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)  
U.S. Department of Commerce  
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC. 20230

CC: The Honorable Jon Ossoff  
United States Senator for Georgia

Dear Chairwoman Rosenworcel and Administrator Davidson:

Having reliable and affordable broadband service is a critical infrastructure need for our community. Fortunately, the need to deploy broadband service has been recognized and assistance is on the way. Private investment like the partnership with Jackson Electric Membership and TruVista is bringing new broadband service to previously unserved homes and businesses in Banks County. This private investment combined with public funding such as the \$42.5 billion from the Broadband Equity, Access and Deployment (BEAD) program and other new federal investments will be transformative steps for our community and region as a whole.

However, a January 13 deadline for challenges to the new, national FCC map is not enough time to ensure an accurate map to appropriately allocate billions of federal dollars. In Georgia, our Department of Community Affairs (DCA) has created a map that looks at served areas differently than the FCC maps. The current FCC maps look at Census blocks. If just one residence or business in the Census block is served, it appears the entire block is served. However, the DCA map is location based. This means that broadband service must be available in 80% of the Census block to be considered served.

It is estimated that using the current FCC methodology the broadband needs of 220,000 households, businesses, and other locations in Georgia are not properly reflected in the FCC map, potentially costing the state millions of dollars in funding.

This work is too important to the future of our community to rush. The COVID-19 pandemic amplified the need for broadband service as students had to learn virtually and doctor's appointments were moved online. Not having access to internet services puts our rural community at a disadvantage for economic development growth opportunities and negative impacts the quality of life for our citizens.

We urge you to extend the deadline so rural Georgia communities can be properly counted and our state and local leaders can be best informed on how to allocate broadband funding.

Sincerely,

  
Charles Turk, Chairman

Mike Davis  
Bleckley County Commissioner



112 N. Second St.  
Cochran, GA 31014  
Phone 478-934-3200  
Fax 478-934-0822

January 9, 2023

To Whom It May Concern

Timely implementation of broadband is very important to those of us in rural areas for many reasons. We need it for workforce development (e.g., learning, education, advanced degrees, certificates), jobs (e.g., increasing number of companies employing "work-at-home" personnel), economic improvement/advancement, healthcare (e.g., telemedicine), and overall lifestyle changes/expectations as modern technology further advances everyday living. The longer that access to sufficient broadband is detained from rural areas, the greater the difference between those desiring to grow and those already on a glidepath of growth. For these reasons and more, my county, our local communities and our regional area need high speed internet access.

Because this is important, I am asking for consideration of an extension to ensure the FCC map being used for decisions of broadband funding allocations before the FCC/NTIA begins their allocations to the states. More time is needed before the allocations of funding begins, so that the rural areas can validate their coverage on the FCC broadband maps. It's my understanding that the FCC/NTIA plan to allocate broadband funding using the existing FCC map and those in rural areas are expected to challenge the numbers after the allocations of broadband funding to states. However, we believe this approach will delay/impede adequate broadband in rural areas of Georgia, which is the objective of the infrastructure act for effective internet access for all.

Respectively,

Mike Davis,  
Bleckley County Commissioner



JOSHUA DERISO  
Commission Chair

ROYCE REEVES, SR.  
Vice-Chair

VESTA BEAL SHEPHARD  
Commissioner

WESLEY RAINEY  
Commissioner

ISAAC OWENS  
Commissioner

ANGELA REDDING  
City Manager



January 6, 2023

The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel, Chairwoman  
Federal Communications Commission  
45 L Street, N.E.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

The Honorable Alan Davidson  
Assistant Secretary and Administrator  
National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)  
U.S. Department of Commerce  
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Chairwoman Rosenworcel and Assistant Secretary and Administrator Davidson:

I am writing this letter to request additional time to review the FCC Broadband Access Map for accuracy to help ensure high-speed internet access for the citizens of Cordele and Crisp County. The January 13, 2023, deadline does not provide communities ample opportunity to review and ensure the FCC map is accurate for the billions of dollars in federal funding.

Access to broadband is critical to the community and the accuracy of allocating the billions of dollars in federal funding too important to small rural communities to rush the process. One example of the need for broadband service in this community is in our local school system. Broadband service is unavailable in certain areas of school buildings. Reliable access to the internet is critical to the education of children in the community. Additionally, citizens outside the city limits have little or no access to the internet.

Thanks in advance for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Angela Redding, MBA  
City Manager

Cc: Senator Jon Ossoff

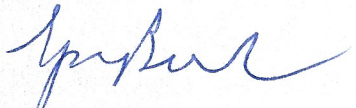
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Respectively,

  
Spencer Barron  
City Manager

City of Eastman



Jon Howell  
Mayor

Priscilla A. Murphy  
City Manager



*Council Members*

Dawn Maddox  
Steve Kinney  
Clint Roberts  
Mark Mobley  
Cody Cain

January 9, 2023

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Copy- The Honorable Jon Ossoff  
United States Senator for Georgia

Dear Chairwoman Rosenworcel and Administrator Davidson:

Having reliable and affordable broadband service is a critical infrastructure need for our community. Fortunately, the need to deploy broadband service has been recognized and assistance is on the way. Private investment like the partnership with Jackson Electric Membership and TruVista is bringing new broadband service to previously unserved homes and businesses in the City of Jefferson. This private investment combined with public funding such as the \$42.5 billion from the Broadband Equity, Access and Deployment (BEAD) program and other new federal investments will be transformative steps for our community and region as a whole.

However, a January 13 deadline for challenges to the new, national FCC map is not enough time to ensure an accurate map to appropriately allocate billions of federal dollars. In Georgia, our Department of Community Affairs (DCA) has created a map that looks at served areas differently than the FCC maps. The current FCC maps look at Census blocks. If just one residence or business in the Census block is served, it appears the entire block is served. However, the DCA map is location based. This means that broadband service must be available in 80% of the Census block to be considered served.


It is estimated that using the current FCC methodology the broadband needs of 220,000 households, businesses, and other locations in Georgia are not properly reflected in the FCC map, potentially costing the state millions of dollars in funding.

This work is too important to the future of our community to rush. The COVID-19 pandemic amplified the need for broadband service as students had to learn virtually and doctor's appointments were moved online.

Not having access to internet services puts our rural community at a disadvantage for economic development growth opportunities and negative impacts the quality of life for our citizens.

We urge you to extend the deadline so rural Georgia communities can be properly counted and our state and local leaders can be best informed on how to allocate broadband funding.

Sincerely,



Jon S. Howell, Mayor





CITY OF JEFFERSONVILLE  
P.O. Box 223 • 18 Church Street North  
Jeffersonville, GA 31044  
(478) 945-3191 City Hall • (478) 945-6894 Fax

---

**MAYOR**

*Charles Williams*

January 3, 2023

Jessica Rosenworcel, FCC Chair  
Alan Davidson, LNTIS Administrator  
Washington, DC

Dear Ms. Rosenworcel and Mr. Davidson:

As mayor of the city of Jeffersonville, GA, a small rural town, we want to see new growth but are challenged by the lack of adequate services, including broadband. While we understand that WindStream is working in conjunction with the Twiggs County government to expand broadband services, we are concerned that the city will not get adequate attention if the numbers do not accurately reflect the need.

Currently, our best information shows that there are two large areas of unserved homes including 44% of the total households within the city limits. Many of our residents live below the poverty level (16.2%) and struggled to keep their children connected to the schools during the COVID shut-downs. In order to help these children, our school system received a grant to put hotspots on school busses that were parked in unserved areas so children could attend virtual classes. Other families had to go to a public building such as the library to connect to internet service, often sitting in parking lots at night to allow children to do homework.

In order to have a comprehensive plan for broadband expansion, we must have accurate information. We encourage the FCC to allow the expanded time needed for public comment and hope we can receive as much data as possible, especially as it relates to rural areas of Georgia such as our small city.

Sincerely,

Charles Williams  
Mayor, City of Jeffersonville

Cc: Sen. Jon Ossoff

**MEMBERS OF COUNCIL**

Darryl Albritton  
Phyllis Bynum-Grace  
Riley Hunt  
Robert Jones  
Willie King  
Joy Peterson



**Where Georgia comes together.**

**MAYOR**  
Randall Walker

**CITY MANAGER**  
R. Lee Gilmour

**ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER**  
Robert Smith

**CITY ATTORNEY**  
Brooke Newby

January 6, 2023

The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel  
Chairwoman, Federal Communications Commission  
45 L Street, NE  
Washington, DC 20554

The Honorable Alan Davidson  
Assistant Secretary and Administrator  
National Telecommunication and Information Administration  
United States Department of Commerce  
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20230

*RE: FCC Broadband Mapping Public Comment Period Extension Request*

Dear Chairwoman Rosenworcel and Administrator Davidson:

The City of Perry, Georgia greatly appreciates your leadership and efforts at the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and National Telecommunication and Information Administration (NTIA), particularly during this time of significant change as it relates to broadband accessibility and connectivity. Certainly, the critical importance of broadband in today's increasingly connected world is not lost on you and your staff as you and your federal counterparts work to ensure the U.S. is well-positioned for continued prosperity in the global economic and social environment. Be assured that we are doing everything we can at the local level to similarly position ourselves and ensure our citizens and businesses are connected.

For municipalities such as ours to effectively plan for and implement the infrastructure improvements necessary for a successful future it is imperative that we have accurate information and data. Chief amongst these resources is timely and accurate broadband mapping. With the resources that are being allocated to states and local communities to enhance broadband connectivity it is important that the data and mapping accurately reflect the reality of broadband accessibility. To ensure mapping is accurate and that resources are equitably distributed; we are requesting that your organization extend the current deadline for public comment on your map(s).

We trust that you are with us in providing for a future in America where everyone has quality, affordable broadband access. Please do not hesitate to reach out should you need anything as it relates to this request or otherwise. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "R Walker", followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Randall Walker  
Mayor

CC: Senator Jon Ossoff



# CITY OF VALDOSTA, GEORGIA



L. MARK BARBER  
CITY MANAGER

January 9, 2023

To whom it may concern,

Valdosta is located in Lowndes County, Georgia. We are less than 30 miles away from the Florida line. Lowndes County is a rural community that has an abundance of opportunities and, like other communities, challenges. One of those challenges is county-wide high-speed internet as well.

We are aware of the FCC's focus on growing internet access and updating the coverage maps.

The future of this opportunity is exciting for our community. We, as a community, have utilized our local resources and ask for your consideration of extending the deadline.

As a city, we want to keep citizens needs at the forefront of all that we do. One area we know is vital for families and businesses in our county is the availability of high-speed internet. High-speed internet will support many families that need this resource as the way we receive information and communication is growing fast and less traditional than before. This opportunity will help our children, seniors, veterans, and parents in ways that benefit everyone in and around the community.


Please consider our request for an extension in support of our local government in Lowndes County, Georgia.

Best Regards,

L. Mark Barber  
City Manager  
City of Valdosta

Post Office Box 1125 • 216 East Central Avenue • Valdosta, GA 31603-1125  
Telephone (229) 259-3518 • [mbarber@valdostacity.com](mailto:mbarber@valdostacity.com)  
*An Equal Opportunity Employer*

**VALDOSTA**  
A City Without Limits



# Columbus Water Works

*Serving our Community  
Protecting the Environment*

January 9, 2023

The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel  
Chairwoman, Federal Communications Commission  
45 L Street NE  
Washington, DC. 20554

The Honorable Alan Davidson  
Assistant Secretary and Administrator  
National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)  
U.S. Department of Commerce  
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC. 20230

This letter is submitted on behalf of Columbus Water Works to request consideration of funding through the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Program. We understand this initiative is designed to provide \$42.45 billion to expand high-speed internet access through the funding of infrastructure deployment and adoption programs.

Within the Columbus Georgia region and surrounding communities, we have recognized there are areas adversely impacted by the digital divide and there are households whereby broadband is AVAILABLE but not ACCESSIBLE. It is our contention that access to broadband should be reliable, affordable and equitable throughout the community.

In addition, we believe the January 13, 2023 deadline for challenges to the FCC map does not provide enough time for communities to ensure an accurate map for the allocation of federal funds. Further, the timeline is insufficient to research and collect the relevant data needed to develop strategies to identify and address the unserved locations and populations throughout the state and in specific communities.

We believe this work is much too important to the state and to the future of our community that every effort should be made to be intentional and diligent in addressing our broadband needs. Millions of Georgians do not have broadband service, due to cost, location as well as accessibility. Now, more than ever, access and affordability to broadband are critical for families and students to ensure access to internet connectivity, utility services and educational resources.



Steve Davis  
President, Columbus Water Works

Cc: The Honorable Jon Ossoff  
United States Senator for Georgia  
Russell Senate Office Building  
Suite 455  
Washington, DC. 20510

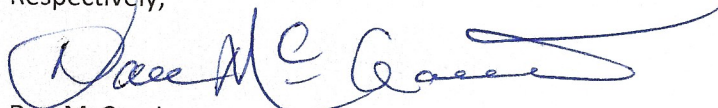
January 9, 2023

To Whom It May Concern

Timely implementation of broadband is very important to those of us in rural areas for many reasons. We need it for workforce development (e.g., learning, education, advanced degrees, certificates), jobs (e.g., increasing number of companies employing "work-at-home" personnel), economic improvement/advancement, healthcare (e.g., telemedicine), and overall lifestyle changes/expectations as modern technology further advances everyday living. The longer that access to sufficient broadband is detained from rural areas, the greater the difference between those desiring to grow and those already on a glidepath of growth. For these reasons and more, my county, our local communities and our regional area need high speed internet access.

Because this is important, and because the data used for the FCC map appears to be missing numerous addresses, I am asking for consideration of an extension to ensure the FCC map being used for decision-making in allocations of the infrastructure act funding for broadband before the FCC/NTIA begins their allocations. We ask that more time be given before the allocations of funding begins, so that the rural areas can validate their coverage on the FCC broadband maps. It's our understanding that the FCC/NTIA plan to allocate broadband funding using the existing FCC map, while many in rural areas believe the data used for establishing this map may not necessarily reflect reality, due to the process used and that those in rural areas are expected to challenge the numbers after the allocations of broadband funding to states begins. We believe this approach will delay the timelines for adequate broadband in rural areas of Georgia, which is the objective of the infrastructure act for effective internet access for all. Again, we are asking for more time to validate/update the FCC map before allocations of funding begins.

Respectively,



Dan McCranie

Dodge County Commissioner, At Large

Chairman, Dodge County Board of Commissioners



January 9, 2023

To Whom It May Concern

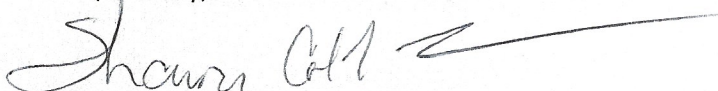
Timely implementation of broadband is very important to those of us in rural areas for many reasons. We need it for workforce development (e.g., learning, education, advanced degrees, certificates), jobs (e.g., increasing number of companies employing "work-at-home" personnel), economic improvement/advancement, healthcare (e.g., telemedicine), and overall lifestyle changes/expectations as modern technology further advances everyday living. The longer that access to sufficient broadband is detained from rural areas, the greater the difference between those desiring to grow and those already on a glidepath of growth. For these reasons and more, my county, our local communities and our regional area need high speed internet access.

Because this is important, and because the data used for the FCC map appears to be missing numerous addresses, I am asking for consideration of an extension to ensure the FCC map being used for decision-making in allocations of the infrastructure act funding for broadband before the FCC/NTIA begins their allocations. We simply ask that more time be given before the allocations of funding begins, so that the rural areas can validate their coverage on the FCC broadband maps.

It's our understanding that the FCC/NTIA plan to allocate broadband funding using the FCC map that indicates currently existing broadband coverage. It is also our understanding that many in rural areas believe the data used for establishing this map may not necessarily reflect reality, due to the process used and that those in rural areas are expected to challenge the numbers after the allocations of broadband funding to states begins. We believe this approach will delay the timelines for adequate broadband in rural areas of Georgia, which is the objective of the infrastructure act for effective internet access for all. Again, we are asking for more time to validate/update the FCC map before allocations of funding begins.

Thank you in advance for your time.

Respectively,

  
Sharon Cobb Flanagan

Dodge County Commissioner, District 1



Dan McCranie, Chairman  
Sharon Cobb Flanagan, District 1  
Kelly Belflower, District 2  
Brian Watkins, District 3  
Karen Cheek, Vice Chair, District 4  
Conner Bearden, County Manager

January 9, 2023

To Whom It May Concern,

Timely implementation of broadband is important to those of us who choose to reside in rural areas for many reasons. We need it for workforce development (e.g., learning, education, advanced degrees, certificates), jobs (e.g., increasing number of companies that employ “work-at-home” personnel), economic improvement/advancement, healthcare (e.g., telemedicine), and overall lifestyle changes/expectations as modern technology further advances everyday living. The longer that access to sufficient broadband is detained from rural areas, the greater the difference between those desiring to grow and those already on a glide path of growth. For these reasons and more, my county, our local communities and our regional area need high speed internet access.

Because this is important, I am asking for consideration of an extension to ensure the FCC map being used for decisions of broadband funding allocations before the FCC/NTIA begins their allocations to the states. More time is needed before the allocations of funding begins, so that the rural areas can validate their coverage on the FCC broadband maps. It's my understanding that the FCC/NTIA plan to allocate broadband funding using the existing FCC map and those in rural areas are expected to challenge the numbers after the allocations of broadband funding to states. However, I believe this approach will delay/impede adequate broadband in rural areas of Georgia, which is the objective of the infrastructure act for effective internet access for all.

Respectively,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Conner Bearden", written in a cursive style.

Conner Bearden



# JACKSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

67 ATHENS STREET • JEFFERSON, GEORGIA 30549 • 706-367-6312

January 6, 2023

The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel  
Chairwoman, Federal Communications Commission  
45 L Street NE  
Washington, DC. 20554

The Honorable Alan Davidson  
Assistant Secretary and Administrator  
National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)  
U.S. Department of Commerce  
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC. 20230

Copy- The Honorable Jon Ossoff  
United States Senator for Georgia

Dear Chairwoman Rosenworcel and Administrator Davidson:

Having reliable and affordable broadband service is a critical infrastructure need for our community. Fortunately, the need to deploy broadband service has been recognized and assistance is on the way. Private investment like the partnership with Jackson Electric Membership and TruVista is bringing new broadband service to previously unserved homes and businesses in Jackson County. This private investment combined with public funding such as the \$42.5 billion from the Broadband Equity, Access and Deployment (BEAD) program and other new federal investments will be transformative steps for our community and region as a whole.

However, a January 13 deadline for challenges to the new, national FCC map is not enough time to ensure an accurate map to appropriately allocate billions of federal dollars. In Georgia, our Department of Community Affairs (DCA) has created a map that looks at served areas differently than the FCC maps. The current FCC maps look at Census blocks. If just one residence or business in the Census block is served, it appears the entire block is served. However, the DCA map is location based. This means that broadband service must be available in 80% of the Census block to be considered served.

It is estimated that using the current FCC methodology the broadband needs of 220,000 households, businesses, and other locations in Georgia are not properly reflected in the FCC map, potentially costing the state millions of dollars in funding.

This work is too important to the future of our community to rush. The COVID-19 pandemic amplified the need for broadband service as students had to learn virtually and doctor's appointments were moved online. Not having access to internet services puts our rural community at a disadvantage for economic development growth opportunities and negative impacts the quality of life for our citizens.

We urge you to extend the deadline so rural Georgia communities can be properly counted and our state and local leaders can be best informed on how to allocate broadband funding.

Sincerely,

Tom Crow, Chairman

Tom Crow  
Chairman

Jim Hix  
District 1

Chas Hardy  
District 2

Chad Bingham  
District 3

Marty Seagraves  
District 4

Marty Clark  
District 5

*Lowndes County  
Board of Commissioners  
Bill Hlaughter, Chairman*



*Joyce E. Evans, District 1  
Scott Crenstein, District 2  
Mark Wisenbaker, District 3  
Demarcus Marshall, Ph.D. District 4  
Clay Griner, District 5*

---

*Post Office Box 1349 • Valdosta, GA 31603-1349 • Phone (229) 671-2400 • Fax (229) 245-5222*

January 9, 2023

To whom it may concern,

Lowndes County Georgia is located in the southern central area of our state. We are only 22 miles from the state of Florida, from our northernmost exit on Interstate 75. Being a county that is located in a rural area of Georgia has its perks, but also comes with challenges. One of the biggest challenges we face is the availability of high-speed internet across our county.

We are extremely excited about the state's position on growing internet access but want to make sure that we get it right. We understand the FCC is working diligently to try and update the coverage maps but our fear is we, as a state and a county, will not be ready for the fast-approaching deadline.

It is imperative that we get this right the first time. Future funding has the ability to make a large impact if done correctly and efficiently. We are using all of our local resources to make sure that our coverage maps in southern central Georgia are as accurate as possible, but are requesting an extension to the deadline.

With over 119,000 citizens in our great county, we want to make sure that high-speed internet is made available to everyone, even those that live in the most remote locations in our community. With the advances in technology and services that were once only available in person, but are now more accessible through the internet, it's important that we bring broadband to our most vulnerable populations including children, senior citizens, and veterans of our great country.

Please consider our request for an extension on behalf of Lowndes County, the Lowndes County Board of Commissioners, and the great state of Georgia.

Sincerely,

Paige Dukes

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paige Dukes", with a long, sweeping underline.

Lowndes County Manager

January 10, 2023

To Whom It May Concern:

I'm writing in my capacity as the Mayor Pro Tempore of Macon-Bibb County. Macon is the 4th largest city in Georgia and as the hub of middle Georgia our citizens have a great deal hinging on the well being of both our urban areas within the city, and the rural economy of this and surrounding counties.

To that end, I'm writing to express concern in the process of creating the new, national FCC map that will be used to determine allocations for the \$42.5 billion the Broadband Equity, Access and Deployment (BEAD) program and other new federal investments.


The preliminary FCC map does not accurately represent the reality of broadband availability on the ground in Georgia. It is estimated that the broadband need of 220,000 households, businesses, and other locations in Georgia are not properly reflected in the FCC map, potentially costing the state millions of dollars in funding.

In Macon-Bibb we have implemented a public wifi program in order to make up for broadband shortages. Our industries and surrounding agricultural operations rely heavily on high functioning and reliable broadband so it is imperative that the map adequately reflect the current need.

I urge the extension of the deadline for public comment on its map's accuracy and to improve its processes so that local and state leaders can be best prepared for funding distributions. Communities like ours cannot afford to rush this process, so proper due diligence is much appreciated.

Thank you for your service, time and consideration. God Bless.

In Service,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Seth C. Clark". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Seth C. Clark

Mayor Pro Tempore - Macon-Bibb County



Todd Higdon, Chairman

Dennis Adams, District 1  
Terry Chandler, District 2  
Frank May, District 3  
Brian Kirk, District 4  
Derek Doster, District 5

January 6, 2023

The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel  
Chairwoman, Federal Communications Commission  
45 L Street NE  
Washington, DC. 20554

The Honorable Alan Davidson  
Assistant Secretary and Administrator  
National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)  
U.S. Department of Commerce  
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC. 20230

Copy- The Honorable Jon Ossoff  
United States Senator for Georgia

Dear Chairwoman Rosenworcel and Administrator Davidson:

Having reliable and affordable broadband service is a critical infrastructure need for our community. Fortunately, the need to deploy broadband service has been recognized and assistance is on the way. Private investment like the partnership with Jackson Electric Membership and TruVista is bringing new broadband service to previously unserved homes and businesses in Madison County. This private investment combined with public funding such as the \$42.5 billion from the Broadband Equity, Access and Deployment (BEAD) program and other new federal investments will be transformative steps for our community and region as a whole.

However, a January 13 deadline for challenges to the new, national FCC map is not enough time to ensure an accurate map to appropriately allocate billions of federal dollars. In Georgia, our Department of Community Affairs (DCA) has created a map that looks at served areas differently than the FCC maps. The current FCC maps look at Census blocks. If just one residence or business in the Census block is served, it appears the entire block is served. However, the DCA map is location based. This means that broadband service must be available in 80% of the Census block to be considered served.

It is estimated that using the current FCC methodology the broadband needs of 220,000 households, businesses, and other locations in Georgia are not properly reflected in the FCC map, potentially costing the state millions of dollars in funding.

This work is too important to the future of our community to rush. The COVID-19 pandemic amplified the need for broadband service as students had to learn virtually and doctor's appointments were moved online. Not having access to internet services puts our rural community at a disadvantage for economic development growth opportunities and negative impacts the quality of life for our citizens.

We urge you to extend the deadline so rural Georgia communities can be properly counted and our state and local leaders can be best informed on how to allocate broadband funding.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "Todd Higdon", is written over a blue horizontal line.



# Middle Georgia Regional Commission

175 Emery Highway, Suite C • Macon, Georgia 31217 • (478) 751-6160 • FAX (478) 751-6517 • [www.middlegeorgiarc.org](http://www.middlegeorgiarc.org)

John R. Harley, Chairman

Laura M. Mathis, Executive Director

January 10, 2023

The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel  
Chairwoman  
Federal Communications Commission  
45 L Street N.E.  
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Ms. Rosenworcel:

Re: Extension of the Challenge Period for the New FCC Broadband Maps

I am writing to request that the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) extend the challenge period for the new FCC broadband maps that were publicized at the end of 2022. Currently, all challenges to these maps must be submitted by January 13, 2023; however, given the importance of this issue to Middle Georgia, that deadline is too early. The lack of high-speed internet is a basic quality of life issue that adversely affects hundreds or even thousands of our residents. Accurate maps are essential to ensuring that all unserved locations are included in the FCC broadband maps.

Statewide, there may be as many as 220,000 unserved locations. This is a tremendous amount of work to verify these locations and determine the validity of FCC data; this work is far too important to rush. In several Middle Georgia counties, less than half of the homes and businesses have access to broadband services. Collectively, our state's data indicates that more than 36,000 homes and businesses across our 11-county region lack service. This sets rural economies behind. As such, broadband services were noted as a key factor for long-term economic resilience in the region's COVID-19 Recovery and Resilience Plan.

Furthermore, the timeline for the full appeals process is simply too compressed. The Middle Georgia Regional Commission (MGRC) is currently working with the State of Georgia on its challenge to the map. Despite our diligent efforts, the end product will not be as complete as needed without an extension. For context, MGRC was a partner of the Census Bureau during the Local Update of Census Addresses (LUCA) operation. This process extended over a year total as communities gathered information and prepared necessary forms to provide to the Census Bureau. This process was necessary, as tens of thousands of addresses were added and accepted by the Census Bureau in our region alone. A validation of broadband service at every address is no less of a significant tasking, and will likewise require more than two months to complete satisfactorily.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at [lmathis@mg-rc.org](mailto:lmathis@mg-rc.org) or 478-751-6160.

Sincerely,

Laura M. Mathis  
Executive Director

cc: Hon. Alan Davidson, NTIA Administrator  
Hon. Jon Ossoff, U.S. Senator, State of Georgia

# Monroe County Board of Commissioners

Jim Hedges, County Manager



Gregory V. Tapley, Chairman  
Eddie Rowland, Vice Chairman  
Lamarcus Davis, District 1  
John Ambrose, District 3  
George Emami, District 4

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38 West Main Street - P.O. Box 189 - Forsyth, Georgia 31029 - Phone (478) 994-7000 - Fax (478) 994-7294  
[www.monroecoga.org](http://www.monroecoga.org)

January 10, 2023

The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel  
Chairwoman  
Federal Communications Commission  
45 L Street N.E.  
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Ms. Rosenworcel:

**Re: Extension of the Challenge Period for the New FCC Broadband Maps**

I am writing to request that the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) extend the challenge period for the new FCC broadband maps that were publicized at the end of 2022. Currently, all challenges to these maps must be submitted by January 13, 2023; however, given the importance of this issue to Monroe County, that deadline is too early,

The lack of high-speed internet is a basic quality of life issue that adversely affects hundreds or even thousands of our residents. Many schoolchildren in underserved areas have already suffered through the COVID-19 pandemic with an inability to access basic internet connectivity for their class work. Lack of broadband access can also impede the work of businesses and even basic communication among families and friends. Therefore, accurate maps are essential to ensuring that all unserved locations are included in the FCC broadband maps.

Statewide, there may be as many as 220,000 unserved locations. This is a tremendous amount of work to verify these locations and determine the validity of FCC data; this work is far too important to rush. In our community, broadband service to residents living in the "final mile" is crucial for children who are doing schoolwork at home in the afternoons and for small businesses and farmers in Monroe County.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Regards.

Gregory V. Tapley,  
Chairman



**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
Meetings Second Tuesday

MARTIN H. MOSELEY, JR.  
Chairman

BETTY C. HILL  
Vice-Chairman

SHANITA D. BRYANT

ROY LEWIS

WADE YODER

MICHAELA JONES  
County Administrator

APRIL H. HODGES  
Assistant County Administrator/  
County Clerk

# Peach County

213 Persons Street  
Fort Valley, Georgia 31030  
Phone 478-825-2535  
Fax 478-825-2678

**COUNTY OFFICIALS**

KIM WILSON  
Probate Judge

SHERRY GONZALES  
Clerk of Superior Court

TERRY DEESE  
Sheriff

W. L. BROWN  
Tax Commissioner

KERRY ROOKS  
Coroner

LAURENS C. LEE  
Magistrate

January 10, 2023

The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel  
Chairwoman  
Federal Communications Commission  
45 L Street N.E.  
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Ms. Rosenworcel:

Re: Extension of the Challenge Period for the New FCC Broadband Maps

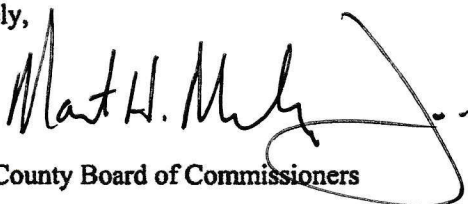
I am writing to request that the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) extend the challenge period for the new FCC broadband maps that were publicized at the end of 2022. Currently, all challenges to these maps must be submitted by January 13, 2023; however, given the importance of this issue to Peach County, that deadline is too early,

The lack of high-speed internet is a basic quality of life issue that adversely affects hundreds or even thousands of our residents. Many schoolchildren in underserved areas have already suffered through the COVID-19 pandemic with an inability to access basic internet connectivity for their class work. Lack of broadband access can also impede the work of businesses and even basic communication among families and friends. Therefore, accurate maps are essential to ensuring that all unserved locations are included in the FCC broadband maps.

Statewide, there may be as many as 220,000 unserved locations. This is tremendous work to verify these locations and determine the validity of FCC data; this work is far too important to rush.

I appreciate your consideration of this request. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 478-825-2535.

Sincerely,



Peach County Board of Commissioners

cc: Hon. Alan Davidson, NTIA Administrator  
Hon. Jon Ossoff, U.S. Senator, State of Georgia



**Columbus Office**  
1428 Second Avenue  
P. O. Box 1908  
Columbus, GA 31902  
Phone (706) 256-2910  
Fax (706) 256-2908

**Americus Office**  
228 West Lamar Street  
Americus, GA 31709  
Phone (706) 256-2910  
Fax (229) 931-2745  
Fax (229) 931-2917

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January 9, 2023

The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel  
Chairwoman  
Federal Communications Commission  
45 L Street, NE  
Washington, DC 20554

The Honorable Alan Davidson  
Assistant Secretary and Administrator  
National Telecommunications and Information  
Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce  
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20230

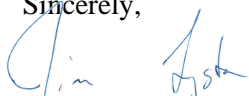
Dear Chairwoman Rosenworcel and Assistant Secretary Davidson:

The River Valley Regional Commission has prioritized broadband expansion because the lack of Internet access has consistently been identified by survey respondents as the most significant obstacle to economic development in our 16 predominately rural counties. We have found that many of the communities in areas currently indicated as fully served in the Federal Communications Commission maps continue to struggle with connectivity limitations that restrict business, educational, and quality of life opportunities. In fact, Georgia's broadband office has identified potentially 220,000 unserved locations.

With our experience in identifying and documenting remote rural locations for multi-county emergency service centers, the Local Update of Census Addresses Operation, and custom geographic information system analysis for comprehensive plans and grant applications, we are confident that the January 13 deadline for challenges to FCC map does not allow adequate time to ensure map accuracy that will guarantee equitable allocation of federal funding to our most at risk communities.

Addressing the reliable depiction of broadband availability will ensure that all serviceable locations are accounted for in funding decisions and provider coverage. The robust testing required to challenge the current fabric will require a significant investment in time that is not realistically achievable by the current deadline. We strongly encourage the extension of the deadline to allow for the thorough review of the location records in the FCC fabric and systematic reconciliation of differences identified at the state, regional and local levels.

Sincerely,



Jim Livingston  
Executive Director



# TOWN OF BROOKS

P.O. Box  
961 HIGHWAY 85 CONNECTOR  
BROOKS, GEORGIA 30205



January 5, 2023

The Honorable Alan Davidson  
Assistant Secretary and Administrator  
National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)  
U.S. Department of Commerce  
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20230

The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel, Chairwoman  
Federal Communications Commission  
45 L Street N.E.  
Washington, DC 20554

**RE: Challenges to FCC Map**

Honorable Asst. Secretary Davidson & Honorable Chairwoman Rosenworcel:

This letter serves to express the concern of our rural area concerning the January 13<sup>th</sup> deadline for challenges to the FCC map. We feel that the current deadline does not provide enough time for an accurate accounting of the current conditions. Certainly, not enough time is provided when the allocation of billions of federal dollars is at stake.

The State of Georgia's broadband office has identified potentially 220,000 unserved locations across the state. Currently, the FCC's National Broadband Map shows all of Georgia, save for the Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge and the entirety of Fort Stewart (United States Army post) as having 80% to 100% broadband coverage. While I'm confident that the Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) is devoid of broadband coverage, hundreds of thousands of Georgia residents living outside of the NWR and Ft. Stewart are either without coverage or have internet speeds reminiscent of dial-up service.

I cannot stress how important the work of correcting the National Broadband Map is to the future of our community to rush through the works, simply in the name of meeting a predetermined deadline. With proper broadband service, our local school can provide quality education, and the local businesses can stay competitive and stay viable. The advent of broadband cable services for businesses in town has made a difference where it matters most. Unfortunately, those not served by business cable, including the USPS office for zip code 30205, have very slow and weak connections. Some areas of our community have no access at all, despite the map's allegations.

Would you please assist in pushing back the January 13<sup>th</sup> deadline and help us accurately portray what the real situation is?

Gratefully,

Maurice Ungaro  
Town Manager

# Board of Commissioners Wilkinson County

MEMBERS OF BOARD:  
ROYCE BREWER, Chairman  
FLINT SHEPHERD  
JAMES HAGINS  
ROBERT DAME  
ANDERSON FORD

PO BOX 161  
IRWINTON GA 31042  
(478) 946-2236  
FAX 946-3767

Tracy Strange, County Manager  
Benjamin Vaughn, Attorney  
website:  
[www.wilkinsoncounty.net](http://www.wilkinsoncounty.net)

January 10, 2023

The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel  
Chairwoman  
Federal Communications Commission  
45 L Street N.E.  
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Ms. Rosenworcel:

Re: Extension of the Challenge Period for the New FCC Broadband Maps

I am writing to request that the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) extend the challenge period for the new FCC broadband maps that were publicized at the end of 2022. Currently, all challenges to these maps must be submitted by January 13, 2023; however, given the importance of this issue to Wilkinson County that deadline is too early,

The lack of high-speed internet is a basic quality of life issue that adversely affects hundreds or even thousands of our residents. Many schoolchildren in underserved areas have already suffered through the COVID-19 pandemic with an inability to access basic internet connectivity for their class work. Lack of broadband access can also impede the work of businesses and even basic communication among families and friends. Therefore, accurate maps are essential to ensuring that all unserved locations are included in the FCC broadband maps.

Statewide, there may be as many as 220,000 unserved locations. This is a tremendous amount of work to verify these locations and determine the validity of FCC data; this work is far too important to rush. Like other rural areas broadband is a very needed necessity in our community. Our county is large in land mass and our small population is spread throughout. Because of this, many students do not have easy access to libraries or other facilities that may provide internet service to complete school assignments. With changes in the job market, many individuals are turning to at home work. Because of the lack of broadband coverage, it is very difficult for our residents to fulfill these types jobs. We want to make sure that the citizens of Wilkinson County are given fair advances just as those in larger, metropolitan areas where broadband coverage is readily available. In order to ensure this, adequate time is needed to accurately review coverage maps.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 478-946-2236 or [tstrange@wilkinsoncounty.net](mailto:tstrange@wilkinsoncounty.net).

Sincerely,

*Tracy D. Strange*

Tracy D. Strange  
County Manager

cc: Hon. Alan Davidson, NTIA Administrator  
Hon. Jon Ossoff, U.S. Senator, State of Georgia



January 10, 2023

The Hon. Jessica Rosenworcel, Chairwoman  
Federal Communications Commission (FCC)  
45 L St., NE  
Washington, D.C. 20554

The Hon. Alan Davidson, Assistant Secretary & Administrator  
National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)  
U.S. Department of Commerce  
1401 Constitution Ave., NW  
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Chairwoman Rosenworcel and Assistant Secretary & Administrator Davidson:

On behalf of Columbus State University and its surrounding community, I am writing you regarding the Broadband Equity, Access and Deployment (BEAD) program, and more specifically, the map that determines the funding allocations across the country for broadband investment.

As one of 26 public institutions that comprise the University System of Georgia, Columbus State is a proud regional university that depends on connectivity and broadband access to service our 7,500-plus students, 1,200-plus employees, our expansive community partners and the many residents throughout the region who benefit from our educational, outreach and cultural programs.

Just last week, the university was made aware that there is a Jan. 13, 2023, deadline for challenging the FCC map concerns. Regretfully, this does not provide us enough time to comment and offer feedback regarding an accurate map to ensure the proper allocation for billions of federal dollars. The State of Georgia has identified potentially 220,000 unserved locations across the state, and this map may not be representative of the needs in Georgia and regions like Columbus.

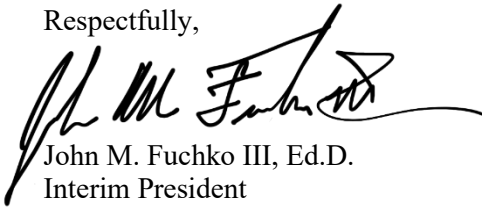
A thorough consideration is too important to the future of our community to rush this deadline. We believe that broadband access is a critical resource not only to the goals and mission of our university, but also to surrounding suburban and rural communities in the west Georgia region. We ask that you consider extending this deadline and provide for considerable review of the program map before finalizing.

Broadband concerns aside, Columbus State University sees tremendous potential in what the “CHIPS 4 CHIPS” initiative promises—not just in terms of uplifting the technology infrastructure of the Chattahoochee Valley, but in furthering the talent acquisition and retention efforts through Columbus 2025 initiatives led by the Greater Columbus Georgia Chamber of Commerce. Established in 1958, Columbus State is credited with creating the middle class in Columbus. Since our founding 65 years ago, our university has sought to undergird the talent and technological infrastructure of our host community through educational strategies that serve both workforce and economic development. Through our 90-plus degrees and programs of study, we seek to retain talent native to the Chattahoochee Valley while attracting regional talent to our community. Germane to this initiative, that includes students studying in our computer science, cybersecurity, computer science and robotics engineering programs and STEM degrees—just to highlight a few.

In supporting the desire to make Columbus, Georgia, a destination for technology-focused talent, Columbus State also supports the business community through educational and outreach programs that include leadership development, management consulting, and continuing and professional education. This is of course in addition to academic programs that prepare our students for careers in business administration, communication, professional and technical writing, and other allied fields regional employers require for effective business, technical and engineering operations found among our 90-plus degree programs. Furthermore, our university's independent offerings and partnerships in the performing, theatrical and visual arts contribute to the community's overall quality of life that attracts and retains talent and the businesses that employ them alike. Finally, CSU is a significant partner to assist our soldiers, civilian employees, and Army families in pursuing their educational goals as is reflected in the 1,300-plus military and military-affiliated students just this past fall.

We appreciate the great work you do at the FCC and NTIA to see that communities across the U.S. have the resources and access they need to thrive. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me if you have questions.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John M. Fuchko III". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

John M. Fuchko III, Ed.D.  
Interim President  
fuchko\_john@columbusstate.edu  
706.507.8950

cc:

The Hon. Jon Ossoff, U.S. Senator  
Russell Senate Office Bldg, Ste. 455  
Washington, D.C. 20510



## *Dodge County Schools*

720 College Street  
Eastman, Georgia 31023  
Telephone (478)374-3783

---

Dr. Susan W. Long, Superintendent

January 9, 2023

To Whom It May Concern:

Timely implementation of broadband is very important to those of us in rural areas for many reasons. We need it for workforce development (e.g., learning, education, advanced degrees, certificates); jobs (e.g., increasing number of companies employing “work-at-home” personnel); economic improvement/advancement; healthcare (e.g., telemedicine); and overall lifestyle changes/expectations as modern technology further advances everyday living. The longer that access to sufficient broadband is detained from rural areas, the greater the difference between those desiring to grow and those already on a glidepath of growth. For these reasons and more, my county, our local communities, and our regional area need high speed internet access.

Because this is of the utmost importance, I am asking for consideration of an extension to ensure the FCC map being used for decisions of broadband funding allocations before the FCC/NTIA begins their allocations to the states. More time is needed before the allocations of funding begin, so that the rural areas can validate their coverage on the FCC broadband maps. It is my understanding that the FCC/NTIA plan to allocate broadband funding using the existing FCC map and those in rural areas are expected to challenge the numbers after the allocations of broadband funding to states. However, we believe this approach will delay/impede adequate broadband in rural areas of Georgia, which is the objective of the infrastructure act for effective internet access for all.

I appreciate your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

*Susan W. Long*

Dr. Susan W. Long  
DCSS Superintendent



January 9, 2023

Dear Chairwoman Rosenworcel and Assistant Secretary Davidson:

I am writing to express my sincere concerns regarding the deadline set by the Federal Communications Commission for its Broadband Data Collection program and the potential exclusion of some Georgia communities. I echo the concerns expressed by Georgia's Congressional Delegation and other partners regarding FCC Map fabric and service availability inaccuracies, and join them in urging an extension of the January 13, 2023 and June 30, 2023 deadlines to properly correct the locations that are not currently listed in the federal data.

Lack of broadband access and availability has an enormous impact on students' K-12 educational attainment. This issue is particularly severe in Georgia's rural school districts – gaps that existed prior to 2020 were only exacerbated by the pandemic. As a state, we have worked tirelessly to expand connectivity to students, from deploying school-bus WiFi rangers to providing home internet access for students in low-income housing.

With that said, this is a long-term infrastructure issue and gaps in access still remain for many Georgians. It would be truly unfortunate for Georgians to be looked over for precious and limited broadband resources based on rushed or flawed data.

On behalf of our 1.7 million K-12 public school students, thank you for your full consideration of Georgia's extension request.

Sincerely,



Richard Woods  
Georgia State School Superintendent





# Jackson County School System

All-Around excellence in academics, athletics, and the arts

1660 Winder Highway  
Jefferson, GA 30549  
706-367-5151  
www.Jacksonschools.ga.org

January 6, 2023

The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel  
Chairwoman, Federal Communications Commission  
45 L Street NE  
Washington, DC. 20554

The Honorable Alan Davidson  
Assistant Secretary and Administrator  
National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)  
U.S. Department of Commerce  
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC. 20230

Dear Chairwoman Rosenworcel and Administrator Davidson:

Having reliable and affordable broadband service is a critical infrastructure need for our community. Fortunately, the need to deploy broadband service has been recognized and assistance is on the way. Private investment like the partnership with Jackson Electric Membership and TruVista is bringing new broadband service to previously unserved homes and businesses in Jackson County. This private investment combined with public funding such as the \$42.5 billion from the Broadband Equity, Access and Deployment (BEAD) program and other new federal investments will be transformative steps for our community and region as a whole.

However, a January 13 deadline for challenges to the new, national FCC map is not enough time to ensure an accurate map to appropriately allocate billions of federal dollars. In Georgia, our Department of Community Affairs (DCA) has created a map that looks at served areas differently than the FCC maps. The current FCC maps look at Census blocks. If just one residence or business in the Census block is served, it appears the entire block is served. However, the DCA map is location based. This means that broadband service must be available in 80% of the Census block to be considered served.

It is estimated that using the current FCC methodology the broadband needs of 220,000 households, businesses, and other locations in Georgia are not properly reflected in the FCC map, potentially costing the state millions of dollars in funding.

This work is too important to the future of our community to rush. The COVID-19 pandemic amplified the need for broadband service as students had to learn virtually and doctor's appointments were moved online. Not having access to internet services puts our rural community at a disadvantage for economic development growth opportunities and negative impacts the quality of life for our citizens.

We urge you to extend the deadline so rural Georgia communities can be properly counted and our state and local leaders can be best informed on how to allocate broadband funding.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Philip Brown'.

Dr. Philip Brown, Superintendent

cc: The Honorable Jon Ossoff, United States Senator for Georgia



# Jefferson County School System

Dr. Samuel D. Dasher, Jr., Superintendent  
1001 Peachtree Street  
Louisville, Georgia 30434  
Telephone 478-625-7626  
Fax 478-625-7459  
Email: [dashers@jefferson.k12.ga.us](mailto:dashers@jefferson.k12.ga.us)

**Board of Education**  
James E. Fleming, Jr.  
Chairman

Farlyn Hudson  
Vice Chair

**Members**  
Teresa Brooks  
Steve Norton  
Julia Wells

January 10, 2023

Dear Federal Communications Commission Chair Jessica Rosenworcel:

I am writing to petition for an extension to the deadline for public comment on the national FCC map which is being used to determine allocations for the Broadband Equity, Access and Deployment (BEAD) program. The extra time is needed so that states and communities can ensure the accuracy of the broadband maps. Since these maps directly impact funding for distributions, I feel that more time is needed for research, study and collaboration.

As an educator in rural Georgia, we see firsthand the great divide between digital access for our students and their families compared to those in urban areas. In Jefferson County, only 32% of our households have access to WiFi and among those affordability can be an issue as well. This lack of access causes our students to be at a great disadvantage when it comes to virtual learning and learning beyond the classroom. As dire a need as affordable broadband access is to our populace, I feel that it is imperative that we accurately identify the accessibility, or lack thereof, or rural Georgians.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of the extension of the timeline so that accurate information can be used to equip our children with access and affordability. If I might provide any insight or further commentary, please do not hesitate to contact me at 478-625-7626, or email me at [dashers@jefferson.k12.ga.us](mailto:dashers@jefferson.k12.ga.us).

Warmest regards,

Dr. Samuel Dasher, Jr

Superintendent

Jefferson County Schools

1001 Peachtree St.

Louisville, GA 30434

478-625-7626



## MADISON COUNTY CHARTER SCHOOL SYSTEM

P.O. Box 37  
Danielsville, Georgia 30633

Michael H. Williams – Superintendent

706.795.2191  
Fax 706.795.5029

The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel  
Chairwoman, Federal Communications Commission  
45 L Street NE  
Washington, DC. 20554

The Honorable Alan Davidson  
Assistant Secretary and Administrator  
National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)  
U.S. Department of Commerce  
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC. 20230

Copy- The Honorable Jon Ossoff, United States Senator for Georgia

Dear Chairwoman Rosenworcel and Administrator Davidson:

Having reliable and affordable broadband service is a critical infrastructure need for our community. Fortunately, the need to deploy broadband service has been recognized and assistance is on the way. Private investment like the partnership with Jackson Electric Membership and TruVista is bringing new broadband service to previously unserved homes and businesses in Madison County. This private investment combined with public funding such as the \$42.5 billion from the Broadband Equity, Access and Deployment (BEAD) program and other new federal investments will be transformative steps for our community and region as a whole.

However, a January 13 deadline for challenges to the new, national FCC map is not enough time to ensure an accurate map to appropriately allocate billions of federal dollars. In Georgia, our Department of Community Affairs (DCA) has created a map that looks at served areas differently than the FCC maps. The current FCC maps look at Census blocks. If just one residence or business in the Census block is served, it appears the entire block is served. However, the DCA map is location based. This means that broadband service must be available in 80% of the Census block to be considered served.

It is estimated that using the current FCC methodology the broadband needs of 220,000 households, businesses, and other locations in Georgia are not properly reflected in the FCC map, potentially costing the state millions of dollars in funding.

This work is too important to the future of our community to rush. The COVID-19 pandemic amplified the need for broadband service as students had to learn virtually and doctor's appointments were moved online. Not having access to internet services puts our rural community at a disadvantage for economic development growth opportunities and negative impacts the quality of life for our citizens.

We urge you to extend the deadline so rural Georgia communities can be properly counted and our state and local leaders can be best informed on how to allocate broadband funding.

Sincerely,

  
Michael H. Williams  
Superintendent



Muscogee County School District  
Columbus, Georgia

David F. Lewis, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Education

P.O. Box 2427  
Columbus, Georgia 31902-2427

January 5, 2023

The Honorable Alan Davidson  
Assistant Secretary and Administrator  
National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)  
U.S. Department of Commerce  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20230

RE: January 13, 2023 deadline to submit challenges to the FCC's preliminary broadband map

Dear Assistant Secretary Davidson,

I am writing to ask that you consider postponing the upcoming January 13 deadline for challenges to the FCC map. The work on the 2022 Georgia Broadband Availability Map completed by the Georgia Department of Community Affairs shows significant differences in broadband availability from the map the FCC will use to allocate federal dollars. In fact, Georgia's broadband office has identified potentially 220,000 unserved locations across the state which are not currently reflected on the FCC map.

In our school district community, the Georgia Broadband map shows significant urban and rural areas as being unserved, while the same areas are shown on the FCC map as being served. This work is too important to our community to rush.

During the pandemic our families, students and faculty had to move from traditional in-person engagements to engagements facilitated by broadband access. We experienced great success with those families and students who had access to reliable broadband coverage. We also witnessed the impact on those families and students who did not have reliable access to broadband. Even now, having resumed in-person engagements, we are deeply engaged in building back the learning losses resulting from the pandemic and accelerating wherever possible.

The modern learning environment is rich with digital resources; but in order to fully make use of these resources, all households need reliable broadband access.

One particular area in our community that is shown as underserved, struggles with generational poverty. Without reliable broadband access, it is difficult to believe these families can thrive as more and more community services, employment and educational opportunities seek to leverage the promise that broadband brings.

Please consider postponing the deadline so that the important work of building an accurate map that depicts the state of broadband service available for Georgia can be completed. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "David F. Lewis".

David F. Lewis, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Education  
Muscogee County School District

Phone (706) 748-2018/748-2019 • FAX (706) 748-2001  
E-mail: Lewis.David.F@muscogee.k12.ga.us • Web address: www.muscogee.k12.ga.us



Muscookee County School District  
Columbus, Georgia

David F. Lewis, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Education

P.O. Box 2427  
Columbus, Georgia 31902-2427

January 5, 2023

The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel  
Chairwoman, Federal Communications Commission  
45 L Street N.E.  
Washington, DC 20554

RE: January 13, 2023 deadline to submit challenges to the FCC's preliminary broadband map

Dear Chairwoman Rosenworcel,

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In our school district community, the Georgia Broadband map shows significant urban and rural areas as being unserved, while the same areas are shown on the FCC map as being served. This work is too important to our community to rush.

During the pandemic our families, students and faculty had to move from traditional in-person engagements to engagements facilitated by broadband access. We experienced great success with those families and students who had access to reliable broadband coverage. We also witnessed the impact on those families and students who did not have reliable access to broadband. Even now, having resumed in-person engagements, we are deeply engaged in building back the learning losses resulting from the pandemic and accelerating wherever possible.

The modern learning environment is rich with digital resources; but in order to fully make use of these resources, all households need reliable broadband access.

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Please consider postponing the deadline so that the important work of building an accurate map that depicts the state of broadband service available for Georgia can be completed. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "David F. Lewis".

David F. Lewis, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Education  
Muscookee County School District

Phone (706) 748-2018/748-2019 • FAX (706) 748-2001  
E-mail: Lewis.David.F@muscookee.k12.ga.us • Web address: www.muscookee.k12.ga.us



**TWIGGS COUNTY  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

Generating Excellence: One Team... One Goal

**SUPERINTENDENT**  
Dr. Mack H. Bullard

**MEMBERS, BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Jaquez Harris, Chairperson · Isiah Rouse, Vice Chairperson · Teresa Blackshear · Rhonda King · Shirley Stokes

December 23, 2022

To: FCC Chair Jessica Rosenworcel  
NTIA Administrator Alan Davidson

CC: Office of US Senator Jon Ossoff

Dear FCC Chair Jessica Rosenworcel and NTIA Administrator Alan Davidson,

Cellular and wireless internet connectivity is no longer a luxury; it is a necessity. Recent studies have concluded that the amount of “screen time” and internet use of school age (7yrs old -17yrs old) children has doubled from 2 hours to over 4 hours daily since 2020. Also, the National Center for Educational Statistics (Sept. 2021) indicated that computers and the internet became essential tools for students to remain engaged during and since the 2021 academic year. However, student’s access to the internet connectivity in rural Georgia counties is a major barrier to online and digital education. Anytime and anywhere learning is not a reality for thousands of students and families in rural Georgia; this includes Twiggs County.

Twiggs County is in the geographic center of Georgia. It is a very rural county with a population of approximately 7,800 people based on the 2020 census. Twiggs County is a broadband and internet desert. Seventy-five percent (75%) of Twiggs County residents don’t have reliable internet connectivity at home according to 2022 Georgia Department of Community Affairs’ Broadband Availability Map of Georgia. This inequity and disparity have significantly impacted educational opportunities for children and families in Twiggs County. The lack of internet connectivity is a major factor that has resulted in a major academic gap and decline in reading and math performance in school aged children since 2020. This inequitable access to internet and wireless connectivity must be resolved to ensure educational and business opportunities for children, families, and business owners in Twiggs County. We need our federal and state governments to act now to make broadband accessible to all children and households in our community.

By equitably providing internet connectivity, all students will have the ability to access quality digital educational resources and material. Twiggs County students will be able to easily access online lectures or classes across various academic subjects. Currently, students can’t connect and collaborate with their teachers and classmates online to complete assignments and learn new material. Broadband access will allow our students the opportunity to gather relevant and important academic information anywhere and anytime to assist them with their studies. This will result in greater student success and student achievement.

*The mission of Twigg County Public Schools is to inspire, challenge and prepare all students to compete globally.*

952 Main Street | P.O. Box 232 | Jeffersonville, GA 31044 · 478-945-3127 (Tel) · 478-945-3078 (Fax) · [www.twigg.k12.ga.us](http://www.twigg.k12.ga.us)



**TWIGGS COUNTY  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

Generating Excellence: One Team... One Goal

**SUPERINTENDENT**  
Dr. Mack H. Bullard

**MEMBERS, BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Jaquez Harris, Chairperson · Isiah Rouse, Vice Chairperson · Teresa Blackshear · Rhonda King · Shirley Stokes

Please ensure the FCC and Georgia broadband map accurately shows the need for broadband access in Twiggs County and rural Georgia. We desperately need federal and state funding to remove the broadband inequity and lack of internet access in our community. I support US Senator Jon Ossoff's plan to ensure adequate federal funding provided through the \$42.5 billion BEAD program (Broadband Equity Access and Deployment) is directed to Georgia to remove the broadband and internet inequity in rural counties like Twiggs County. The installation of broadband throughout Twiggs County will improve the lives of our citizens and close the digital divide that negatively impacts student achievement and business growth in our county. If there is any additional information needed, please contact me.

Respectfully,

**Dr. Mack Bullard**, Superintendent of Schools

*The mission of Twiggs County Public Schools is to inspire, challenge and prepare all students to compete globally.*

952 Main Street | P.O. Box 232 | Jeffersonville, GA 31044 · 478-945-3127 (Tel) · 478-945-3078 (Fax) · [www.twiggs.k12.ga.us](http://www.twiggs.k12.ga.us)





"Keeping Quality Healthcare in the Neighborhood."

The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel  
Chairwoman  
Federal Communications Commission  
45 L Street, NE Washington, DC 20554

The Honorable Alan Davidson  
Assistant Secretary of Commerce for  
Communications and Information  
National Telecommunications  
and Information Administration  
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20230

*Dear Chairwoman Rosenworcel and Assistant Secretary Davidson:*

*This letter is in support of the FCC and NTIA deadline extension request from the Georgia Congressional Delegation and our state association of Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) - the Georgia Primary Care Association. We applaud and support the effort that has gone into updating the FCC map fabric. Additionally, we understand the importance of ensuring this effort culminates with accurate broadband mapping data as it will support critical broadband programs, such as the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) program.*

*As CEO of Athens Neighborhood Health Center, an FQHC serving the County of Athens-Clarke County and surrounding areas, our organization is in agreement with the aforementioned letters to you all requesting consideration for an extension of at least 60 days beyond the currently established filing deadline of January 13, 2023 to allow for the open and accessible challenge process to better promote accurate mapping and the efficient use of federal resources.*

*As a rural healthcare organization serving a rural area of Georgia it is vital to both our organization and to the patients we serve to have access to afford reliable high speed broadband coverage. A lack of access to broadband coverage impacts our ability to offer telehealth, which was felt especially intensely during the pandemic when these services were needed more than ever.*

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Marcus Garner". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over the typed name.

Marcus Garner, CEO

Alamo  
CareConnect Family Practice

Americus  
Americus OBGYN  
CareConnect Family Practice  
Americus Urgent Care  
CareConnect Family Dentistry  
CareConnect Pediatrics  
New Hope Clinic

Ashburn  
CareConnect Family Practice &  
Pediatrics

Buena Vista  
CareConnect Family Practice

Butler  
CareConnect Family Practice

Warner Robins  
CareConnect Convenient Care

Cochran  
CareConnect Family Practice

Cordele  
CareConnect ID Clinic  
CareConnect Family Practice  
CareConnect OBGYN  
CareConnect Urgent Care  
New Hope Clinic  
Pediatric Urgent Care

Cusseta  
CareConnect Family Practice

Cuthbert  
CareConnect Convenient Care

Dawson  
CareConnect Convenient Care

Eastman  
CareConnect Family Practice &  
Pediatrics

Ellaville  
CareConnect Convenient Care

Forsyth  
CareConnect Convenient Care

Fort Valley  
CareConnect Convenient Care

Georgetown  
CareConnect Family Practice

Griffin  
CareConnect Convenient Care  
CareConnect Urgent Care

Hawkinsville  
CareConnect Convenient Care

Kathleen  
Pediatric Convenient Care

Montezuma/Oglethorpe  
CareConnect Pediatrics  
CareConnect Family Practice

Moultrie  
CareConnect Urgent Care  
CareConnect Pediatrics

Perry  
CareConnect Convenient Care

Richland  
CareConnect Family Practice &  
Pediatrics

Roberta  
CareConnect Family Practice

Rochelle  
CareConnect Family Practice &  
Pediatrics

Thomaston  
CareConnect Convenient Care

Tifton  
CareConnect Convenient Care  
CareConnect Urgent Care  
Pediatric Convenient Care



December 30, 2022

The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel  
Chairwoman  
Federal Communications Commission  
45 L Street, NE Washington, DC 20554  
and

The Honorable Alan Davidson  
Assistant Secretary of Commerce for  
Communications and Information  
National Telecommunications

Information Administration  
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Chairwoman Rosenworcel and Assistant Secretary Davidson:

This letter is in support of the FCC and NTIA deadline extension request from the Georgia Congressional Delegation and our state association of Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) - the Georgia Primary Care Association. We applaud and support the effort that has gone into updating the FCC map fabric. Additionally, we understand the importance of ensuring this effort culminates with accurate broadband mapping data as it will support critical broadband programs, such as the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) program.

As CEO of CareConnect Health, an FQHC serving 27 rural Counties of Georgia our organization is in agreement with the aforementioned letters to you all requesting consideration for an extension of at least 60 days beyond the currently established filing deadline of January 13, 2023 to allow for the open and accessible challenge process to better promote accurate mapping and the efficient use of federal resources.

As a rural healthcare organization serving a rural area of Georgia it is vital to both our organization and to the patients we serve to have access to afford reliable high speed broadband coverage.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Ajay Gehlot'. The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a white rectangular box.

Ajay Gehlot, MD, MBA  
Chief Executive Officer and Clinical Director





12/30/2022

The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel, Chairperson  
Federal Communications Commission  
45 L Street NE, Washington DC, 20554

The Honorable Alan Davidson  
Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information  
National Telecommunications and Information Administration  
1401 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington DC, 20230

Dear Chairperson Rosenworcel and Assistant Secretary Davidson,

This letter is in support of the FCC and NTIA deadline extension request from the Georgia Congressional Delegation and our state association of Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) - the Georgia Primary Care Association. We applaud and support the effort that has gone into updating the FCC map fabric. Additionally, we understand the importance of ensuring this effort culminates with accurate broadband mapping data as it will support critical broadband programs, such as the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) program.

As CEO of Christ Community Health Services Augusta, an FQHC serving the counties of Richmond, Burke, and Columbia in Georgia, our organization is in agreement with the aforementioned letters to you all requesting consideration for an extension of at least 60 days beyond the currently established filing deadline of January 13, 2023 to allow for the open and accessible challenge process to better promote accurate mapping and the efficient use of federal resources.

As a healthcare organization that serves rural areas of Georgia it is vital to both our organization and to the patients we serve to have access to afford reliable high-speed broadband coverage. Since the COVID-19 pandemic, work from home options and telehealth options have increased for many staff and patients and has become a vital part of the services we offer. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Don B.", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Don Branum, CEO  
Christ Community Health Services Augusta

P.O. Box 2344, Augusta, GA 30903  
Phone (706) 922-0600  
[www.cchsaugusta.org](http://www.cchsaugusta.org)

January 4, 2023

*The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel  
Chairwoman  
Federal Communications Commission  
45 L Street, NE Washington, DC 20554  
and*

*The Honorable Alan Davidson  
Assistant Secretary of Commerce for  
Communications and Information  
National Telecommunications*

*Information Administration  
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20230*

**Dear Chairwoman Rosenworcel and Assistant Secretary Davidson:**


***This letter is in support of the FCC and NTIA deadline extension request from the Georgia Congressional Delegation and our state association of Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) - the Georgia Primary Care Association. We applaud and support the effort that has gone into updating the FCC map fabric. Additionally, we understand the importance of ensuring this effort culminates with accurate broadband mapping data as it will support critical broadband programs, such as the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) program.***

***As CEO of Coastal Community Health, an FQHC serving the Counties of Glynn, McIntosh, and Camden our organization is in agreement with the aforementioned letters to you all requesting consideration for an extension of at least 60 days beyond the currently established filing deadline of January 13, 2023, to allow for the open and accessible challenge process to better promote accurate mapping and the efficient use of federal resources.***

***As a rural healthcare organization serving a rural area of Georgia it is vital to both our organization and to the patients we serve to have access to afford reliable high speed broadband coverage. Access to such broadband services enables our program to serve a multitude of individuals, whether it individuals incapable to physically leaving their home, individuals not have proper transportation and/or access to public transportation, or school-based services that enable students and educators alike to access primary care and behavioral health services in real time without missing out daily lessons.***

***Thank you for your consideration and review of this vital service, necessary for the health and wealth of our communities.***

***Respectfully,***



**Dr. Kavanaugh Chandler, MD MBA  
CEO of Coastal Community Health**



January 3, 2023

Carla Belcher  
Chief Executive Officer  
Community Health Care Systems, Inc.  
116 Smith St.  
Tennille, GA 31089

*Dear Chairwoman Rosenworcel and Assistant Secretary Davidson:*

*This letter is in support of the FCC and NTIA deadline extension request from the Georgia Congressional Delegation and our state association of Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) - the Georgia Primary Care Association. We applaud and support the effort that has gone into updating the FCC map fabric. Additionally, we understand the importance of ensuring this effort culminates with accurate broadband mapping data as it will support critical broadband programs, such as the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) program.*

*As CEO of an FQHC serving the Counties 14 counties in East Central Georgia including Bibb, Baldwin, Washington, Johnson, Jones, Twiggs, Wilkinson Telfair, Warren, Hancock, Glascock, Taliaferro and Jefferson, our organization is in agreement with the aforementioned letters to you all requesting consideration for an extension of at least 60 days beyond the currently established filing deadline of January 13, 2023 to allow for the open and accessible challenge process to better promote accurate mapping and the efficient use of federal resources.*

*As a rural healthcare organization serving a rural area of Georgia it is vital to both our organization and to the patients we serve to have access to afford reliable high speed broadband coverage. The lack of broadband continues to marginalize our patients and citizens in these areas making it difficult to provide remote patient monitoring, virtual visits with video, meaningful counseling and other services that those in urban areas have relied on for quite some time now and certainly became necessary during the pandemic. Rural citizens should be afforded the same access to life saving care as those in urban areas and broadband should be considered an essential gateway for providing care.*

*Respectfully,*

Carla W. Belcher  
CEO

Community Health Care Systems, Inc.

December 29, 2022

The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel  
Chairwoman  
Federal Communications Commission  
45 L Street, NE Washington, DC 20554

The Honorable Alan Davidson  
Assistant Secretary of Commerce for  
Communications and Information  
National Telecommunications and  
Information Administration  
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Chairwoman Rosenworcel and Assistant Secretary Davidson:

This letter is in support of the FCC and NTIA deadline extension request from the Georgia Congressional Delegation and our state association of Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) - the Georgia Primary Care Association. We applaud and support the effort that has gone into updating the FCC map fabric. Additionally, we understand the importance of ensuring this effort culminates with accurate broadband mapping data as it will support critical broadband programs, such as the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) program.

As the Acting CEO of CPACS Cosmo Health Center, an FQHC serving the Counties of Gwinnett, DeKalb, Cobb, Fulton, and etc. our organization is in agreement with the aforementioned letters to you all requesting consideration for an extension of at least 60 days beyond the currently established filing deadline of January 13, 2023 to allow for the open and accessible challenge process to better promote accurate mapping and the efficient use of federal resources.

As requested by our Congressional delegation, we similarly request the FCC and NTIA take steps to enable an open and accessible challenge process to better promote accurate mapping and the efficient use of federal resources. Specifically, we request that

- The FCC extend the January 13, 2023, filing deadline for bulk challenges, including both fabric and availability challenges, by 60 days.
- The NTIA extends by 60 days its timeline for announcing BEAD Program allocations to account for challenges made by the extended deadline.
- The FCC and NTIA commit to expeditiously reviewing any challenges they receive and to communicate to Members of Congress any issues they anticipate in reviewing all challenges received in a timely manner, including any additional resources or authorities necessary.

We stand ready to assist with the FCC's Broadband Data Collection Program in any way that we can in fulfilling the program's intent of providing affordable high speed and reliable broadband for all of Georgia. Your favorable consideration of this request will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,



Seungjun Stephen Lee – Acting CEO

106 E. Broad Street  
P.O. Box 2024  
Savannah, Georgia 31402  
(912) 527-1000

349 West Bryan Street  
Savannah, Georgia 31401  
(912) 527-2727



**CURTIS V. COOPER  
PRIMARY HEALTHCARE, INC.**

5354 Reynolds Street, Suite 420  
Savannah, Georgia 31405  
(912) 355-6990

2 Roberts Street  
Savannah, Georgia 31405  
(912) 527-1100

800 East 70th Street  
Savannah, Georgia 31405  
(912) 790-6500

January 2, 2023

The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel  
Chairwoman  
Federal Communications Commissions  
45 L Street, N.E.  
Washington, DC 20554

The Honorable Alan Davidson  
Assistant Secretary of Commerce for  
Communications and Information  
National Telecommunications and  
Information Administration  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20230

Curtis V. Cooper Primary Health Care, Inc., an FQHC in Savannah-Chatham County, Georgia has 48 years of continuous health care service to our community and to the underserved population in particular. CVCPHC also provides primary health care services from a small rural site in Pembroke (Bryan County), Georgia. We wholeheartedly join the Georgia Primary Care Association and Georgia's entire Congressional Delegation in their request to the Federal Communications Commission and the National Telecommunications and Information in asking that a delay be granted in the currently established timetables for the FCC's Broadband Data Collection Program.

We are specifically asking consideration in granting the Federal Communications Commission and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration the opportunity to strengthen the challenge process for the FCC's Broadband Data Collection program by extending the deadline by at least 60 days.

We join the afore-mentioned entities in requesting that:

- The FCC extend the January 13, 2023 filing deadline for bulk challenges, including both fabric and availability challenges, by 60 days.
- The NTIA extends by 60 days its timeline for announcing BEAD Program allocations to account for challenges made by extended deadline.
- The FCC and NTIA commit to expeditiously reviewing any challenges received and to communicate to Members of Congress any issues they anticipate in reviewing all challenges received in a timely manner, including any additional resources or authorities necessary.

Please accept our appreciation for your thoughtful consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Albert B. Grandy, Jr.  
Chief Executive Officer



## DIVERSITY HEALTH CENTER

January 3, 2023

The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel  
Chairwoman  
Federal Communications Commission  
45 L Street, NE Washington, DC 20554

The Honorable Alan Davidson  
Assistant Secretary of Commerce for  
Communications and Information  
National Telecommunications and  
Information Administration  
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Chairwoman Rosenworcel and Assistant Secretary Davidson:

This Letter is in support of the FCC and NTIA deadline extension request from the Georgia Congressional Delegation and our state association of Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC)-the Georgia Primary Care Association. We appreciate the efforts and understand the importance of ensuring the mapping data will support critical broadband programs that are throughout the three Counties that Diversity Health Center serve.

As CEO of Diversity Health Center, Inc. an FQHC serving Liberty, Long and Wayne County our organization is in agreement with the aforementioned letters to you all requesting consideration for an extension of at least 60 days beyond the currently established filing deadline of January 13, 2023 to allow for the open and accessible challenge process to better promote accurate mapping and the efficient use of federal resources.

With two of the three counties we serve considered rural communities, we see the disadvantage that rural communities experience because of not have access to high-speed broadband coverage. Even in the one county that is not considered rural they two faces major gaps in broadband services. Having access to these services played a major role on how we are able to provide services during emergency situations.

We stand ready to assist with the FCC's Broadband Data Collection Program in any way that we can in fulfilling the program's intent of providing affordable high speed and reliable broadband for all of Georgia.

Your favorable consideration of this request will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

  
Stephanie Jones-Heath, CEO





January 9, 2023

Jan Hamrick, CFO  
Dodge County Hospital  
P.O. Box 4309  
Eastman, GA 31023

To Whom It May Concern

Timely implementation of broadband is very important to those of us in rural areas for many reasons. We need it for workforce development (e.g., learning, education, advanced degrees, certificates), jobs (e.g., increasing number of companies employing "work-at-home" personnel), economic improvement/advancement, healthcare (e.g., telemedicine), and overall lifestyle changes/expectations as modern technology further advances everyday living. The longer that access to sufficient broadband is detained from rural areas, the greater the difference between those desiring to grow and those already on a glidepath of growth. For these reasons and more, my county, our local communities and our regional area need high speed internet access.

Because this is important, I am asking for consideration of an extension to ensure the FCC map being used for decisions of broadband funding allocations before the FCC/NTIA begins their allocations to the states. More time is needed before the allocations of funding begins, so that the rural areas can validate their coverage on the FCC broadband maps. It's my understanding that the FCC/NTIA plan to allocate broadband funding using the existing FCC map and those in rural areas are expected to challenge the numbers after the allocations of broadband funding to states. However, we believe this approach will delay/impede adequate broadband in rural areas of Georgia, which is the objective of the infrastructure act for effective internet access for all.

Respectively,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jan Hamrick". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Jan Hamrick, CFO  
Dodge County Hospital



The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel  
Chairwoman  
Federal Communications Commission  
45 L Street, NE Washington, DC 20554  
and

The Honorable Alan Davidson  
Assistant Secretary of Commerce for  
Communications and Information  
National Telecommunications

Information Administration  
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Chairwoman Rosenworcel and Assistant Secretary Davidson:

This letter is in support of the FCC and NTIA deadline extension request from the Georgia Congressional Delegation and our state association of Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) - the Georgia Primary Care Association. We applaud and support the effort that has gone into updating the FCC map fabric. Additionally, we understand the importance of ensuring this effort culminates with accurate broadband mapping data as it will support critical broadband programs, such as the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) program.

As CEO of East Georgia Healthcare Center, an FQHC serving the Counties of Emanuel, Tattnall, Treutlen, Candler, Bulloch, Montgomery, Toombs, Appling, Jefferson, Jenkins, Evans and Screven our organization is in agreement with the aforementioned letters to you all requesting consideration for an extension of at least 60 days beyond the currently established filing deadline of January 13, 2023 to allow for the open and accessible challenge process to better promote accurate mapping and the efficient use of federal resources.

As a rural healthcare organization serving a rural area of Georgia it is vital to both our organization and to the patients, we serve to have access to afford reliable high speed broadband coverage. In today's information and data driven primary care setting there are few tools more important than high speed broadband. Without its primary care returns to a world of limited patient history and a limited ability to make effective and efficient medical decisions which can make life saving treatment possible in individuals. There are also implications on the modern practice that limit the methods of treatment, i.e. telehealth and real time specialty consultations. The cost of limiting broadband access to rural medical practices can be extremely high. Accessing the same level of care and access to information should not be limited to urban and suburban areas, and without broadband we are doing exactly that by limiting the access to high-speed broadband.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jennie Wren Denmark". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jennie Wren Denmark, CEO

215 n. coleman street ♥ swainsboro, ga. 30401 ♥ phone 478.237.6262 ♥ www.eghc.org

baxley ♥ metter ♥ mt. vernon ♥ reidsville ♥ soperton ♥ statesboro ♥ swainsboro ♥ vidalia ♥ wadley ♥ millen ♥ claxton ♥ sylvania ♥ crider

EGHC IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER AND PROVIDER



## FIRST CHOICE

PRIMARY CARE

January 3, 2023

The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel  
Chairwoman  
Federal Communications Commission  
45 L Street, NE Washington, DC 20554

The Honorable Alan Davidson  
Assistant Secretary of Commerce for  
Communications and Information  
National Telecommunications and  
Information Administration  
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20230

First Choice Primary Care is a federally qualified health center providing primary care to the medically underserved of Central Georgia. We served over 12,000 patients in Macon-Bibb and Houston Counties last year. While our clinics are located in urban areas, many of our patients live in the surrounding rural counties, such as Twiggs, Peach, Jones, Monroe, Crawford and Taylor, where access to reliable and affordable broadband is limited. The overwhelming majority of our patients are low-income, and a third have no health insurance. Many lack reliable transportation, and reliable internet service would allow them to access healthcare via telehealth.

Our letter is to follow up a recent letter sent to you by Georgia's entire Congressional Delegation requesting a delay in the timetable for currently established timetables for the FCC's Broadband Data Collection program. We are requesting the Federal Communications Commission and National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) to strengthen the challenge process for the FCC's Broadband Data Collection program by extending the deadline by at least 60 days to receive fabric and availability challenges.

As requested by our Congressional delegation, we similarly request the FCC and NTIA take steps to enable an open and accessible challenge process to better promote accurate mapping and the efficient use of federal resources. Specifically, we request that

- The FCC extend the January 13, 2023, filing deadline for bulk challenges, including both fabric and availability challenges, by 60 days.
- The NTIA extends by 60 days its timeline for announcing BEAD Program allocations to account for challenges made by the extended deadline.
- The FCC and NTIA commit to expeditiously reviewing any challenges they receive and to communicate to Members of Congress any issues they anticipate in reviewing all challenges received in a timely manner, including any additional resources or authorities necessary.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely yours,

Katherine McLeod, CEO



## *Four Corners Primary Care Centers, Inc.*

---

5300 Oakbrook Parkway, Building 100, Suite 130, Norcross, Georgia 30093  
Ph: 770 806 - 2928 Fax: 770 234 - 6716 www.fcpchealth.com

December 29, 2022

The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel  
Chairwoman  
Federal Communications Commission  
45 L Street, NE Washington, DC 20554

The Honorable Alan Davidson  
Assistant Secretary of Commerce for  
Communications and Information  
National Telecommunications and  
Information Administration  
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20230

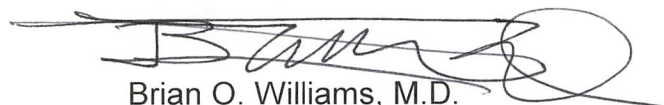
Dear Chairwoman Rosenworcel and Assistant Secretary Davidson,

This letter is in support of the FCC and NTIA deadline extension request from the Georgia Congressional Delegation and our state association of Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) - the Georgia Primary Care Association. We applaud and support the effort that has gone into updating the FCC map fabric. Additionally, we understand the importance of ensuring this effort culminates with accurate broadband mapping data as it will support critical broadband programs, such as the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) program.

As CEO of Four Corners Primary Care Centers, an FQHC serving the Counties of Gwinnett and Jackson our organization is in agreement with the aforementioned letters to you requesting consideration for an extension of at least 60 days beyond the currently established filing deadline of January 13, 2023 to allow for the open and accessible challenge process to better promote accurate mapping and the efficient use of federal resources.

As a healthcare organization serving a rural area of Georgia it is vital to both our organization and to the patients we serve to have access to afford reliable high speed broadband coverage. Our electronic medical records are web based and the lack of broadband has an impact on the ability to access patient information and provide quality affordable care in a timely manner.

Sincerely,



Brian O. Williams, M.D.  
Chief Executive Officer

January 6, 2023

The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel  
Chairwoman  
Federal Communications Commission  
45 L Street, NE Washington, DC 20554

The Honorable Alan Davidson  
Assistant Secretary of Commerce for  
Communications and Information  
National Telecommunications and  
Information Administration  
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Chairwoman Rosenworcel and Assistant Secretary Davidson:

This letter is in support of the FCC and NTIA deadline extension request from the Georgia Congressional Delegation and our state association of Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) - the Georgia Primary Care Association. We applaud and support the effort that has gone into updating the FCC map fabric. Additionally, we understand the importance of ensuring this effort culminates with accurate broadband mapping data as it will support critical broadband programs, such as the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) program.

As CEO of Georgia Highlands Medical Services, an FQHC serving the Counties of Bartow, Cherokee, Dawson and Forsyth, our organization is in agreement with the aforementioned letters to you all requesting consideration for an extension of at least 60 days beyond the currently established filing deadline of January 13, 2023 to allow for the open and accessible challenge process to better promote accurate mapping and the efficient use of federal resources.

As a community health center serving some rural areas of Georgia, it is vital to both our organization and to the patients we serve to have access to afford reliable high speed broadband coverage.

Thank you for consideration.



Todd Shifflet, CEO



December 29, 2022

The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel  
Chairwoman  
Federal Communications Commission  
45 L Street, NE Washington, DC 20554

The Honorable Alan Davidson  
Assistant Secretary of Commerce for  
Communications and Information  
National Telecommunications and  
Information Administration  
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20230

I am writing on behalf of the Georgia system of Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs). My organization, the Georgia Primary Care Association, represents all 34 FQHC organizations in Georgia with 230 clinic sites in 131 Georgia counties. Collectively, Georgia FQHCs are the significant safety net provider in our state with the majority of our patients being covered by Medicaid or uninsured and lacking any type of insurance coverage at all. In 2021 we served over 650,000 patients with over 65% of those patients being from rural areas of our state. Our clinics provide healthcare on an outpatient basis and provide the following types of healthcare - Primary Care, Behavioral Health, Pharmacy, Vision, and Dental. Additional specialty types of healthcare are provided by some of our member organizations.

Our letter is to follow up a recent letter sent to you by Georgia's entire Congressional Delegation requesting a delay in the timetable for currently established timetables for the FCC's Broadband Data Collection program. We are requesting the Federal Communications Commission and National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) to strengthen the challenge process for the FCC's Broadband Data Collection program by extending the deadline by at least 60 days to receive fabric and availability challenges.

As requested by our Congressional delegation, we similarly request the FCC and NTIA take steps to enable an open and accessible challenge process to better promote accurate mapping and the efficient use of federal resources. Specifically, we request that

- The FCC extend the January 13, 2023, filing deadline for bulk challenges, including both fabric and availability challenges, by 60 days.
- The NTIA extends by 60 days its timeline for announcing BEAD Program allocations to account for challenges made by the extended deadline.
- The FCC and NTIA commit to expeditiously reviewing any challenges they receive and to communicate to Members of Congress any issues they anticipate in reviewing all challenges received in a timely manner, including any additional resources or authorities necessary.

We stand ready to assist with the FCC's Broadband Data Collection Program in any way that we can in fulfilling the program's intent of providing affordable high speed and reliable broadband for all of Georgia.

Your favorable consideration of this request will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

Duane A. Kavka - CEO

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "DKavka", is written over the typed name "Duane A. Kavka - CEO".



# Good Samaritan

HEALTH & WELLNESS CENTER

December 29, 2022

The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel  
Chairwoman  
Federal Communications Commission  
45 L Street, NE Washington, DC 20554

The Honorable Alan Davidson  
Assistant Secretary of Commerce for  
Communications and Information  
National Telecommunications and  
Information Administration  
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Chairwoman Rosenworcel and Assistant Secretary Davidson:

This letter is in support of the FCC and NTIA deadline extension request from the Georgia Congressional Delegation and our state association of Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) - the Georgia Primary Care Association. We applaud and support the effort that has gone into updating the FCC map fabric. Additionally, we understand the importance of ensuring this effort culminates with accurate broadband mapping data as it will support critical broadband programs, such as the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) program.

As Chief Executive Officer of Good Samaritan Health and Wellness Center, an FQHC serving the Counties of Pickens, Cherokee, Gilmer and Fannin, our organization is in agreement with the aforementioned letters to you all requesting consideration for an extension of at least 60 days beyond the currently established filing deadline of January 13, 2023 to allow for the open and accessible challenge process to better promote accurate mapping and the efficient use of federal resources.

As a rural healthcare organization serving a rural area of Georgia it is vital to both our organization and to the patients we serve to have access to afford reliable high speed broadband coverage. The lack of broadband in our area impacted the ability to provide care and allow staff to work from home during the pandemic.

We stand ready to assist with the FCC's Broadband Data Collection Program in any way that we can in fulfilling the program's intent of providing affordable high speed and reliable broadband for all of Georgia.

Your favorable consideration of this request will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,  
Tammi Sorrells, CEO

175 Samaritan Drive  
Jasper GA 30143  
706 253 4673



January 2, 2023

The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel  
Chairwoman  
Federal Communications Commission  
45 L Street, NE Washington, DC 20554

The Honorable Alan Davidson  
Assistant Secretary of Commerce for  
Communications and Information  
National Telecommunications and  
Information Administration  
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Chairwoman Rosenworcel and Assistant Secretary Davidson:

This letter is in support of the FCC and NTIA deadline extension request from the Georgia Congressional Delegation and our state association of Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) - the Georgia Primary Care Association. We applaud and support the effort that has gone into updating the FCC map fabric. Additionally, we understand the importance of ensuring this effort culminates with accurate broadband mapping data as it will support critical broadband programs, such as the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) program.

As Chief Executive Officer of the HEALing Community Center, an FQHC serving the Counties of Dekalb, Fulton, and Douglas our organization is in agreement with the aforementioned letters to you all requesting consideration for an extension of at least 60 days beyond the currently established filing deadline of January 13, 2023 to allow for the open and accessible challenge process to better promote accurate mapping and the efficient use of federal resources.

As we expand our operations into the Douglasville, we are becoming all too familiar with the challenges of ensuring access and clear communications of our value to the community. Our goal is to ensure that another Georgia county has access to quality/affordable primary health care services and your extension of this deadline would help to make this a reality.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Donald E. Usher". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Donald E. Usher  
Chief Executive Officer





J. C. LEWIS  
**PRIMARY HEALTH CARE**  
CENTER

5 Mall Annex  
Savannah, GA 31406  
(912) 495-8887  
Fax (912) 495-8881

December 30, 2022

The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel  
Chairwoman  
Federal Communications Commission  
45 L Street, NE  
Washington, DC 20554

The Honorable Alan Davidson  
Assistant Secretary of Commerce for  
Communications and Information  
National Telecommunications and

Information Administration  
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Chairwoman Rosenworcel and Assistant Secretary Davidson:

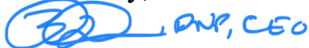
This letter is in support of the FCC and NTIA deadline extension request from the Georgia Congressional Delegation and our state association of Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) - the Georgia Primary Care Association. We applaud and support the effort that has gone into updating the FCC map fabric. Additionally, we understand the importance of ensuring this effort culminates with accurate broadband mapping data as it will support critical broadband programs, such as the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) program.

As CEO of J C Lewis Primary Care Center, an FQHC serving the Counties of Chatham, Bryan, and Effingham our organization is in agreement with the aforementioned letters to you all requesting consideration for an extension of at least 60 days beyond the currently established filing deadline of January 13, 2023 to allow for the open and accessible challenge process to better promote accurate mapping and the efficient use of federal resources.

In serving a rural community, we see the disadvantages that rural communities experience because of not having access to high-speed broadband coverage. Providers living in rural areas experience slower internet services at their home often requiring the provider to drive to the office to access patient's electronic medical records due to their internet not having the band width to access from their residence. The pandemic revealed more weaknesses of slow internet because of the increase in virtual visits. As a rural healthcare organization, it is vital to both our organization and to our patients to have access to affordable reliable high speed broadband coverage.

Your favorable consideration of this request will be appreciated.

Sincerely,

  
Dr. Rena Douse, CEO

December 29, 2022

The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel  
Chairwoman  
Federal Communications Commission  
45 L Street, NE Washington, DC 20554

The Honorable Alan Davidson  
Assistant Secretary of Commerce for  
Communications and Information  
National Telecommunications and  
Information Administration  
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20230

I am writing on behalf of the Georgia system of Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs). My organization, the Georgia Primary Care Association, represents all 34 FQHC organizations in Georgia with 230 clinic sites in 131 Georgia counties. Collectively, Georgia FQHCs are the significant safety net provider in our state with the majority of our patients being covered by Medicaid or uninsured and lacking any type of insurance coverage at all. In 2021 we served over 650,000 patients with over 65% of those patients being from rural areas of our state. Our clinics provide healthcare on an outpatient basis and provide the following types of healthcare - Primary Care, Behavioral Health, Pharmacy, Vision, and Dental. Additional specialty types of healthcare are provided by some of our member organizations.

Our letter is to follow up a recent letter sent to you by Georgia's entire Congressional Delegation requesting a delay in the timetable for currently established timetables for the FCC's Broadband Data Collection program. We are requesting the Federal Communications Commission and National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) to strengthen the challenge process for the FCC's Broadband Data Collection program by extending the deadline by at least 60 days to receive fabric and availability challenges.

As requested by our Congressional delegation, we similarly request the FCC and NTIA take steps to enable an open and accessible challenge process to better promote accurate mapping and the efficient use of federal resources. Specifically, we request that

- The FCC extend the January 13, 2023, filing deadline for bulk challenges, including both fabric and availability challenges, by 60 days.
- The NTIA extends by 60 days its timeline for announcing BEAD Program allocations to account for challenges made by the extended deadline.
- The FCC and NTIA commit to expeditiously reviewing any challenges they receive and to communicate to Members of Congress any issues they anticipate in reviewing all challenges received in a timely manner, including any additional resources or authorities necessary.

We stand ready to assist with the FCC's Broadband Data Collection Program in any way that we can in fulfilling the program's intent of providing affordable high speed and reliable broadband for all of Georgia.

Your favorable consideration of this request will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,



Jeff Taylor  
Chief Executive Officer

December 30, 2022

The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel  
Chairwoman  
Federal Communications Commission  
45 L Street, NE Washington, DC 20554

The Honorable Alan Davidson  
Assistant Secretary of Commerce for  
Communications and Information  
National Telecommunications and  
Information Administration  
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Chairwoman, Rosenworcel and Assistant Secretary Davidson:

This letter is in support of the FCC and NTIA deadline extension request from the Georgia Congressional Delegation and our state association of Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) - the Georgia Primary Care Association. We applaud and support the effort that has gone into updating the FCC map fabric. Additionally, we understand the importance of ensuring this effort culminates with accurate broadband mapping data as it will support critical broadband programs, such as the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) program.

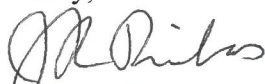
As CEO of Medical Associates Plus, an FQHC serving the counties of Richmond, Columbia, Jefferson, Burke, Warren, Washington, Emanuel, and McDuffie in the state of Georgia, our organization is in agreement with the aforementioned letters to you all requesting consideration for an extension of at least 60 days beyond the currently established filing deadline of January 13, 2023 to allow for the open and accessible challenge process to better promote accurate mapping and the efficient use of federal resources.

With six of the eight counties we serve considered rural communities, we see the disadvantages that rural communities experience because of not having access to high-speed broadband coverage. One provider had faster internet at her home in Augusta (urban) than she did at work in Waynesboro (rural). One provider, when on call, has had to ride into the office to access a patient's electronic medical record because his internet does not have the bandwidth to access from home.

The pandemic revealed more weaknesses of slow internet because of the increase in virtual visits. As a healthcare organization with rural locations, it is vital to both our organization and to our patients to have access to affordable reliable high speed broadband coverage.

Your favorable consideration of this request will be appreciated.

Sincerely,



J. R. Richards, CEO

The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel  
Chairwoman  
Federal Communications Commission  
45 L Street, NE Washington, DC 20554

The Honorable Alan Davidson  
Assistant Secretary of Commerce for  
Communications and Information  
National Telecommunications  
Information Administration  
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Chairwoman Rosenworcel and Assistant Secretary Davidson:

This letter is in support of the FCC and NTIA deadline extension request from the Georgia Congressional Delegation and our state association of Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) - the Georgia Primary Care Association. We applaud and support the effort that has gone into updating the FCC map fabric. Additionally, we understand the importance of ensuring this effort culminates with accurate broadband mapping data as it will support critical broadband programs, such as the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) program.

As the Chief Executive Officer of MedLink Georgia, Inc. and serving 25 counties and over 51,000 patients in Rural Northeast Georgia we are in agreement with the aforementioned letters to you all requesting consideration for an extension of at least 60 days beyond the currently established filing deadline of January 13, 2023 to allow for the open and accessible challenge process to better promote accurate mapping and the efficient use of federal resources.

As a healthcare organization serving rural Georgia it is vital to both our organization and to the patients we serve to have access to afford reliable high speed broadband coverage. The lack of high-speed reliable internet services has been a determinant to many of our patients. Beginning with the Pandemic and thru today, many patients have had to go without healthcare treatment because they couldn't take advantage of the convenience of Telehealth services. Further many of our patients struggle due to a lack of public transportation, thus complicating matters and leaving many of our patients to have to go without receiving necessary medical treatments.

Thus I implore you to grant a 60 day extension of the FCC and NTIA deadline.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dave Ward".

Dave Ward  
CEO and President

McKinney Cares 4 Every **BODY!**



# MCKINNEY MEDICAL CENTER, INC.

December 29, 2022

T—(912) 287-0301  
F—(912) 287-0687  
www.mckinneymedicalcenter.com

The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel  
Chairwoman  
Federal Communications Commission  
45L Street, NE Washington, DC 20554

Assistant Secretary of Commerce for  
Communications and Information  
National Telecommunications and  
Information Administration  
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Chairwoman Rosenworcel and Assistant Secretary Davidson:

This letter is in support of the FCC and NTIA deadline extension request from the Georgia Congressional Delegation and our state association of Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) - the Georgia Primary Care Association. We applaud and support the effort that has gone into updating the FCC map fabric. Additionally, we understand the importance of ensuring this effort culminates with accurate broadband mapping data as it will support critical broadband programs, such as the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) program.

As CEO of McKinney Medical Center, an FQHC serving the Counties of Ware, Pierce, Bacon, Brantley, Charlton and Camden our organization is in agreement with the aforementioned letters to you all requesting consideration for an extension of at least 60 days beyond the currently established filing deadline of January 13, 2023 to allow for the open and accessible challenge process to better promote accurate mapping and the efficient use of federal resources.

As a rural healthcare organization serving a rural area of Georgia it is vital to both our organization and to the patients we serve to have access to afford reliable high speed broadband coverage.

Sincerely yours,

Ola A. Smith-Carter

**Main Campus**  
218 Quarterman St.  
Waycross, GA 31501  
912.287.9140 (T)  
912.287.1059 (F)

**Brantley Co. Site**  
9355 Main St.  
Nahunta, GA 31553  
912.462.6222 (T)  
912.462.6803 (F)

**Charlton Co. Site**  
3919 Main St.  
Folkston, GA 31537  
912.496.3426 (T)  
912.496.1072 (F)

**Charlton Co. Dental Site**  
9313 Main St.  
Folkston, GA 31537  
912.496.0826 (T)  
912.496.08767 (F)

**Camden Co. Site**  
711 Charles Gilman Jr. Ave. Ste. B  
Kingsland, GA 31548  
912.510.9728 (T)  
912.510.9752 (F)

**Bacon Co. Site**  
501 N. Pierce St.  
Alma, GA 31510  
912.632.0872 (T)  
912.632.0886 (F)

**McDonald Outreach**  
935 McDonald St.  
Waycross, GA 31501  
912.285.5080 (T)  
912.285.5767 (F)

**Nelson Greene Senior Center**  
1615 Carswell Ave.  
Waycross, GA 31501  
912.285.9800 (T)  
912.285.1357 (F)



North Georgia  
Healthcare Center

January 2, 2023

The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel  
Chairwoman  
Federal Communications Commission  
45 L street, NE Washington, DC  
20554

and

The Honorable Alan Davidson  
Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information  
National Telecommunications Information Administration  
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Chairwoman Rosenworcel and Assistant Secretary Davidson:

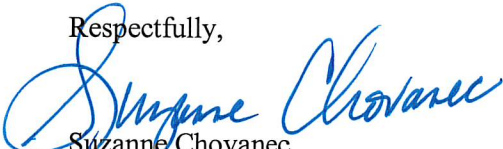
This letter is in support of the FCC and NTIA deadline extension request from the Georgia Congressional Delegation, and our state association of Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs), the Georgia Primary Care Association (GPCA). We applaud and support the effort that has gone into updating the FCC map fabric. Additionally, we understand the importance of ensuring this effort culminates with accurate broadband mapping data as it will support critical broadband programs, such as the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) program.

As the CEO of the North Georgia Healthcare Center, Inc (NGHCC), a FQHC program serving the Counties of Catoosa, Walker and Whitfield, our organization is in agreement with the aforementioned letters to you requesting consideration for an extension of at least 60 days beyond the currently established filing deadline of January 13, 2023, to allow for the open and accessible challenge process to better promote accurate mapping and the efficient use of federal resources.

With each of our counties classified as rural or partially rural by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), we see firsthand the disadvantages rural communities experience because of the lack of access to high-speed broadband coverage. During the peak of the COVID pandemic, a faster, more robust internet service would have been an asset to our medical providers, and their patients, when telehealth visits were being performed remotely from home. The pandemic revealed the weaknesses of slow internet because of the increase in virtual visits. As a rural healthcare organization, it is vital to both our organization and to our patients to have access to affordable reliable high speed broadband coverage.

Your consideration of this request is very much appreciated.

Respectfully,

  
Suzanne Chovanec  
Chief Executive Officer

SC:as

# OCONEE VALLEY HEALTHCARE

Dear chairwoman Rosenwoecel and assistant Sec. Davidson:

This letter is in support of the FCC and NTIA deadline extension request from the Georgia congressional delegation and our state Association of federally qualified health care centers (pumpkinFQHCs)-the Georgia primary care Association. We applaud and support the effort that has gone into updating the FCC map of ensuring this effort culminates with accurate broadband mapping data as it will support critical broadband programs, such as the broadband equity, access and deployment (BEAD) program.

As CEO of Oconee Valley healthcare Inc. an FQHC serving the counties of Greene, Putnam, Baldwin, Hancock and Morgan counties our organization is in agreement with the a for mentioned letters to you all requesting consideration for an extension of at least 60 days beyond the current established filing deadline of January 13, 2023 to allow for the open and accessible challenge process to better promote accurate mapping and the efficient use of federal resources.

As a rural healthcare organization serving a rural area of Georgia it is vital to both our organization and the patients we serve to have access to affordable reliable high-speed broadband coverage. Without broadband coverage it is impossible to do remote patient monitoring and telehealth to our patients that are homebound or have transportation difficulties. Many patients in the rural areas have very poor transportation and broadband access makes a significant difference in their overall health and well-being.

Thank you,



Dave A Ringer MD, CPE, CMD, FAAFP  
Chief Executive Officer, Oconee Valley healthcare Inc.

**Greensboro  
Medical Dental Pharmacy**  
803 South Main Street  
Greensboro, GA 30642

**Lake Oconee  
Medical**  
1041 Park Drive  
Greensboro, GA 30642

**Wellness Center  
Medical**  
1040 Park Drive  
Greensboro, GA 30642

**Milledgeville  
Medical**  
510 North Cobb Street  
Milledgeville, GA 31061



### Locations

Administration  
338 College Street  
Blakely, GA 39823  
(229) 723-2660

Bainbridge  
509 Wheat Avenue  
Bainbridge, GA 39819  
(229) 416-4421

Blakely  
360 College Street  
Blakely, GA 39823  
(229) 723-2660

Quitman  
907 North Court Street  
Quitman, GA  
(229) 263-4531

Thomasville  
454 Smith Avenue  
Thomasville, GA 31792  
(229) 227-5510

Women's Health Center  
916 South Broad Street  
Thomasville, GA 31792  
(229) 226-3377

TCMS  
School Based Health Center  
4681 US Highway 84 Bypass  
Thomasville, GA 31792  
(229) 227-2936

ECSS  
School Based Health Center  
283 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.  
Blakely, GA 39823  
(229) 261-9884

January 4, 2023

The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel  
Chairwoman  
Federal Communications Commission  
45 L Street, NE Washington, DC 20554

The Honorable Alan Davidson  
Assistant Secretary of Commerce for  
Communications and Information  
National Telecommunications  
and Information Administration  
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Chairwoman Rosenworcel and Assistant Secretary Davidson:

This letter is in support of the FCC and NTIA deadline extension request from the Georgia Congressional Delegation and our state association of Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) - the Georgia Primary Care Association. We applaud and support the effort that has gone into updating the FCC map fabric. Additionally, we understand the importance of ensuring this effort culminates with accurate broadband mapping data as it will support critical broadband programs, such as the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) program.

As CEO of Primary Care of Southwest Georgia, Inc., an FQHC serving the Counties of Early, Decatur, Thomas and Brooks, our organization is in agreement with the aforementioned letters to you all requesting consideration for an extension of at least 60 days beyond the currently established filing deadline of January 13, 2023, to allow for the open and accessible challenge process to better promote accurate mapping and the efficient use of federal resources.

As a rural healthcare organization serving a rural area of Georgia it is vital to both our organization and to the patients we serve to have access to afford reliable high speed broadband coverage. Unreliable and nonexistent broadband access was very evident during COVID. Our organization did offer telehealth services for our patients to ensure they were still receiving care. However, with the lack of service, we still had patients that were unable to be seen because their internet was not stable enough to complete a visit. This caused considerable frustration not only for our patients but our providers that were trying their level best to still take care of their patients during lockdowns. In a world fueled by technology, rural areas are still being left behind.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Angie McVey". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Angie McVey, CEO





The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel  
Chairwoman  
Federal Communications Commission  
45 L Street, NE Washington, DC 20554

The Honorable Alan Davidson  
Assistant Secretary of Commerce for  
Communications and Information  
National Telecommunications and  
Information Administration  
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Chairwoman Rosenworcel and Assistant Secretary Davidson:

*This letter is in support of the FCC and NTIA deadline extension request from the Georgia Congressional Delegation and our state association of Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) - the Georgia Primary Care Association. We applaud and support the effort that has gone into updating the FCC map fabric. Additionally, we understand the importance of ensuring this effort culminates with accurate broadband mapping data as it will support critical broadband programs, such as the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) program.*

*As CEO of Primary Health Care Center of Dade, Inc., an FQHC serving the Counties of Catoosa, Chattooga, Dade, Floyd, Polk, and Walker, our organization is in agreement with the aforementioned letters to you all requesting consideration for an extension of at least 60 days beyond the currently established filing deadline of January 13, 2023 to allow for the open and accessible challenge process to better promote accurate mapping and the efficient use of federal resources.*

*As a rural healthcare organization serving a rural area of Georgia it is vital to both our organization and to the patients we serve to have access to afford reliable high speed broadband coverage. The lack of broadband in some of our more remote, rural communities had a major negative impact on our ability to provide telehealth services to some of our patients during the COVID pandemic. This problem continues today.*

Thank you for your consideration,

Diana Allen, CEO

[allend@primaryhealthcarecenter.org](mailto:allend@primaryhealthcarecenter.org)





# South Central Primary Care Center, Inc.

*"Building a Healthy Community"*

**R.B Tucker, Jr.**  
Chief Executive Officer

December 30, 2022

The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel  
Chairwoman  
Federal Communications Commission  
45 L Street, NE Washington, DC 20554  
and

The Honorable Alan Davidson  
Assistant Secretary of Commerce for  
Communications and Information  
National Telecommunications

Information Administration  
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Chairwoman, Rosenworcel and Assistant Secretary Davidson:

This letter is in support of the FCC and NTIA deadline extension request from the Georgia Congressional Delegation and our state association of Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) - the Georgia Primary Care Association. We applaud and support the effort that has gone into updating the FCC map fabric. Additionally, we understand the importance of ensuring this effort culminates with accurate broadband mapping data as it will support critical broadband programs, such as the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) program.

As CEO of South Central Primary Care Center, an FQHC serving the Counties of Atkinson, Berrien, Ben Hill, Coffee, Cook, Irwin, and Lowndes our organization is in agreement with the aforementioned letters to you all requesting consideration for an extension of at least 60 days beyond the currently established filing deadline of January 13, 2023 to allow for the open and accessible challenge process to better promote accurate mapping and the efficient use of federal resources.

With six of the seven counties we serve considered rural communities, we see the disadvantages that rural communities experience because of not having access to high-speed broadband coverage. One physician had faster internet at his home in Valdosta (urban) that he did at work in Nashville (rural). One provider, when on call, has had to ride into the office to access a patient's electronic medical record because her internet does not have the band width to access from home. The pandemic revealed more weaknesses of slow internet because of the increase in virtual visits. As a rural healthcare organization, it is vital to both our organization and to our patients to have access to affordable reliable high speed broadband coverage.

Your favorable consideration of this request will be appreciated.

Sincerely,

R.B. Tucker Jr. CEO



**Southwest Georgia**  
Healthcare Clinics

*December 29, 2022*

*The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel  
Chairwoman  
Federal Communications Commission  
45 L Street, NE Washington, DC 20554  
and*

*The Honorable Alan Davidson  
Assistant Secretary of Commerce for  
Communications and Information  
National Telecommunications*

*Information Administration  
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20230*

*Dear Chairwoman Rosenworcel and Assistant Secretary Davidson:*

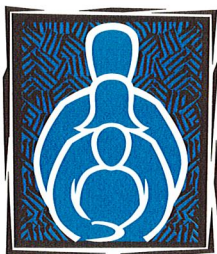
*This letter is in support of the FCC and NTIA deadline extension request from the Georgia Congressional Delegation and our state association of Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) - the Georgia Primary Care Association. We applaud and support the effort that has gone into updating the FCC map fabric. Additionally, we understand the importance of ensuring this effort culminates with accurate broadband mapping data as it will support critical broadband programs, such as the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) program.*

*As CEO of Southwest Georgia Healthcare Clinics, Inc an FQHC serving the Counties of Seminole, Miller, Early & Decatur, our organization is in agreement with the aforementioned letters to you all requesting consideration for an extension of at least 60 days beyond the currently established filing deadline of January 13, 2023 to allow for the open and accessible challenge process to better promote accurate mapping and the efficient use of federal resources.*

*As a rural healthcare organization serving a rural area of Georgia it is vital to both our organization and to the patients, we serve to have access to afford reliable high speed broadband coverage.*

*Best Regards,*

*Donna L. Williams, CEO*



# VALLEY HEALTHCARE

S Y S T E M

**Corporate Office:**

1600 Fort Benning Road  
Columbus, GA 31903  
Main Office: (706) 322-9599  
Main Fax: (706) 322-9567

**Service Delivery Sites:**

Valley Healthcare Columbus  
1600 Fort Benning Road  
Columbus, GA 31903  
Main Office: (706) 322-9599  
Medical Fax: (706) 322-8332  
Dental Fax: (706) 221-4495

Valley Healthcare Fortson  
94 McCrary Road  
Fortson, GA 31808  
Main Office: (706) 987-8216  
Main Fax: (706) 987-8220

Valley Healthcare Talbotton  
341 North Washington Avenue  
Talbotton, GA 31827  
Medical Office: (706) 665-2585  
Medical Fax: (706) 665-2591  
Dental Office: (706) 665-2139  
Dental Fax: 706.665-2179

[www.valleyhealthcolumbus.com](http://www.valleyhealthcolumbus.com)

January 3, 2023

The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel  
Chairwoman  
Federal Communications Commission  
45 L Street, NE Washington, DC 20554

The Honorable Alan Davidson  
Assistant Secretary of Commerce for  
Communication and Information  
National Telecommunications and  
Information Administration  
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Chairwoman Rosenworcel and Assistant Secretary Davidson:

This letter is in support of the FCC and NTIA deadline extension request from the Georgia Congressional Delegation and our state association of Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) – the Georgia Primary Care Association. We applaud and support the effort that has gone into updating the FCC map fabric. Additionally, we understand the importance of ensuring this effort culminates with accurate broadband mapping data as it will support critical broadband programs, such as the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) program.

As the Chief Executive Officer of Valley Healthcare System, Inc. serving the Georgia Counties of Muscogee, Talbot, and Harris, our organization is in agreement with the aforementioned letters to you requesting consideration for an extension of a least sixty (60) days beyond the currently established filing deadline of January 13, 2023, to allow for the open and accessible challenge process to better promote accurate mapping and the efficient use of federal resources.

As a healthcare organization serving rural areas of Georgia, it is vital to both our organization and to the patients we serve to have access to affordable, reliable high speed broadband coverage. Many of our patients were challenged in their access to telehealth services because of the lack of broadband coverage during the pandemic emergency and even today.

Therefore, your favorable consideration of this request will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Sarah E. Lang  
Chief Executive Officer



January 3, 2023

**The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel  
Chairwoman  
Federal Communications Commission  
45 L Street, NE  
Washington, DC 20554**

and

**Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information  
National Telecommunications Information Administration  
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20230**

**Dear Chairwoman Rosenworcel and Assistant Secretary Davidson:**

**This letter is in support of the FCC and NTIA deadline extension request from the Georgia Congressional Delegation and our state association of Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) - the Georgia Primary Care Association. We applaud and support the effort that has gone into updating the FCC map fabric. Additionally, we understand the importance of ensuring this effort culminates with accurate broadband mapping data as it will support critical broadband programs, such as the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) program.**

**As CEO of Meridian Education Resource Group dba Whitefoord Inc., an FQHC serving the Counties of Fulton and DeKalb, our organization is in agreement with the aforementioned letters to you all requesting consideration for an extension of at least 60 days beyond the currently established filing deadline of January 13, 2023 to allow for the open and accessible challenge process to better promote accurate mapping and the efficient use of federal resources.**

**As an urban based FQHC, we stand beside and support our fellow FQHCs in rural areas of Georgia as it is vital that the patients and families we serve have ready access to affordable and reliable high speed broadband coverage.**

**Thank you for your consideration,**

  
**Craig Tindall, MBA/MHA, FACHE  
CEO**



December 30, 2022

The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel, Chairwoman  
Federal Communications Commission  
45 L Street, NE  
Washington, DC 20554

The Honorable Alan Davidson  
Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information NTIA  
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Chairwoman, Rosenworcel and Assistant Secretary Davidson:

This letter is in support of the FCC and NTIA deadline extension request from the Georgia Congressional Delegation and our state association of Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) - the Georgia Primary Care Association. We applaud and support the effort that has gone into updating the FCC map fabric. Additionally, we understand the importance of ensuring this effort culminates with accurate broadband mapping data as it will support critical broadband programs, such as the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) program.

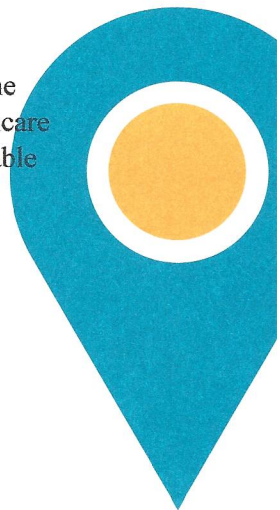
As CEO of Palmetto Health Council, Inc. (DBA YourTown Health), an FQHC serving the Counties of Carroll, Lamar, Pike, Meriwether, Coweta, and south Fulton our organization is in agreement with the aforementioned letters to you all requesting consideration for an extension of at least 60 days beyond the currently established filing deadline of January 13, 2023 to allow for the open and accessible challenge process to better promote accurate mapping and the efficient use of federal resources.

With four of the six counties we serve considered rural communities, we see the disadvantages that rural communities experience because of not having access to high-speed broadband coverage. During the pandemic, YourTown Health had to immediately convert to telehealth appointments that created a significant barrier to care for those individuals living in our rural communities lacking effective broadband services. These patients were treated with utilizing audio services only compromising the level of care provided to those individuals living in rural communities of Georgia. As a rural healthcare organization, it is vital to both our organization and to our patients to have access to affordable reliable high speed broadband coverage.

Your favorable consideration of this request will be appreciated.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
Jon W. Wollenzien, Jr., D.B.A.  
Chief Executive Officer



January 10, 2023

BOARD OF MANAGERS

Melissa Hughes, President  
*Tift County*

Henry Craig, 1st Vice President  
*Baldwin County*

David Sikes, 2nd Vice President  
*Toombs County*

Clinton Johnson, 3rd Vice President  
*Dougherty County*

Ben Hendrix  
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Larry Johnson  
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*Houston County*

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Kevin Poe  
*Jackson County*

Johnny Davis  
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Chris Dockery  
*Lumpkin County*

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Benjamin Hayward  
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John Daniell  
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Mark Saxon  
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Lamar Paris  
*Union County*

Jason Tinsley  
*Upson County*

Shannon Whitfield  
*Walker County*

Amanda Hannah  
*Wayne County*

James Thomas  
*Wayne County*

Edwin Nix  
*White County*

The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel  
Chairwoman  
Federal Communications Commission  
45 L Street N.E.  
Washington, DC 20554

The Honorable Alan Davidson  
Assistant Secretary and Administrator  
National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)  
U.S. Department of Commerce  
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Chair Rosenworcel and Assistant Secretary Davidson:

On behalf of ACCG, Georgia's county association, I write to request the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) extend the deadline to make challenges to the proposed broadband map by at least 60 days. The ability to receive comprehensive fabric and availability challenges will strengthen the challenge process for the FCC's Broadband Data Collection program.

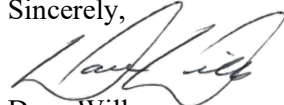
In 2018, the state launched the Georgia Broadband Program which included detailed mapping efforts showing the availability of broadband services to every home and business in the State. The state's considerable time and investment in mapping unserved and underserved areas of Georgia has provided vital data that shows where investments would make the most impact. By granting additional time, state officials and local leaders can work together for a comprehensive review of the FCC maps and ensure the maps accurately reflect conditions in Georgia.

The accuracy of the map is critical as it will be the basis for the allocation of billions of federal dollars for broadband projects in Georgia. We join the members of the Georgia Congressional delegation and our partners in local government, the Georgia Municipal Association in requesting:

- The FCC extend the January 13, 2023, filing deadline for bulk challenges, including both fabric and availability challenges, by 60 days;
- The NTIA extends by 60 days its timeline for announcing BEAD Program allocations to account for challenges made by the extended deadline; and,
- The FCC and NTIA commit to expeditiously reviewing any challenges they receive and to communicate any issues they anticipate in reviewing all challenges received in a timely manner, including any additional resources or authorities necessary.

ACCG recognizes the vital importance of expanding affordable, reliable and enhanced broadband access throughout Georgia and appreciates the partnership between federal, state and local governments to successfully close the digital divide. We and the 159 counties in Georgia stand ready to work with you and your agencies to deliver broadband access for every Georgian.

Sincerely,



Dave Wills  
ACCG Executive Director



January 6, 2023

The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel  
Chairwoman, Federal Communications Commission  
45 L Street NE  
Washington, DC. 20554

The Honorable Alan Davidson  
Assistant Secretary and Administrator  
National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)  
U.S. Department of Commerce  
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC. 20230

Copy- The Honorable Jon Ossoff  
United States Senator for Georgia

Dear Chairwoman Rosenworcel and Administrator Davidson:

Having reliable and affordable broadband service is a critical infrastructure need for our community. Fortunately, the need to deploy broadband service has been recognized and assistance is on the way. Private investment like the partnership with Jackson Electric Membership and TruVista is bringing new broadband service to previously unserved homes and businesses in Banks County. This private investment combined with public funding such as the \$42.5 billion from the Broadband Equity, Access and Deployment (BEAD) program and other new federal investments will be transformative steps for our community and region as a whole.

However, a January 13 deadline for challenges to the new, national FCC map is not enough time to ensure an accurate map to appropriately allocate billions of federal dollars. In Georgia, our Department of Community Affairs (DCA) has created a map that looks at served areas differently than the FCC maps. The current FCC maps look at Census blocks. If just one residence or business in the Census block is served, it appears the entire block is served. However, the DCA map is location based. This means that broadband service must be available in 80% of the Census block to be considered served.

It is estimated that using the current FCC methodology the broadband needs of 220,000 households, businesses, and other locations in Georgia are not properly reflected in the FCC map, potentially costing the state millions of dollars in funding.

This work is too important to the future of our community to rush. The COVID-19 pandemic amplified the need for broadband service as students had to learn virtually and doctor's appointments were moved online. Not having access to internet services puts our rural community at a disadvantage for economic development growth opportunities and negative impacts the quality of life for our citizens.

We urge you to extend the deadline so rural Georgia communities can be properly counted and our state and local leaders can be best informed on how to allocate broadband funding.

Sincerely,

Alicia Andrews  
Executive Director  
Banks County Chamber CVB, Inc.





January 6, 2023

The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel  
Chairwoman, Federal Communications Commission  
45 L Street NE  
Washington, DC. 20554

The Honorable Alan Davidson  
Assistant Secretary and Administrator  
National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)  
U.S. Department of Commerce  
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC. 20230

Copy- The Honorable Jon Ossoff  
United States Senator for Georgia

Dear Chairwoman Rosenworcel and Administrator Davidson:

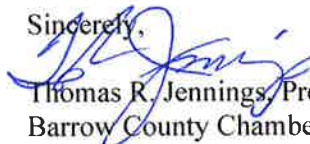
Having reliable and affordable broadband service is a critical infrastructure need for our community. Fortunately, the need to deploy broadband service has been recognized and assistance is on the way. Private investment like the partnership with Jackson Electric Membership and TruVista is bringing new broadband service to previously unserved homes and businesses. This private investment combined with public funding such as the \$42.5 billion from the Broadband Equity, Access and Deployment (BEAD) program and other new federal investments will be transformative steps for our community and region as a whole.

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It is estimated that using the current FCC methodology the broadband needs of 220,000 households, businesses, and other locations in Georgia are not properly reflected in the FCC map, potentially costing the state millions of dollars in funding.

This work is too important to the future of our community to rush. Not having access to internet services puts our rural community at a disadvantage for economic development growth opportunities and negative impacts the quality of life for our citizens.

We urge you to extend the deadline so rural Georgia communities can be properly counted and our state and local leaders can be best informed on how to allocate broadband funding.

Sincerely,  
  
Thomas R. Jennings, Pres/CEO  
Barrow County Chamber of Commerce

---

P.O. BOX 456  
#6 PORTER STREET, SUITE A  
WINDER, GEORGIA 30680  
770.867.9444  
FAX 770.867.6366

**Corporate Headquarters**

12 S. Third Street  
P.O. Box 922  
Bay Springs, MS 39422



300 Thomas Avenue  
Chickamauga, GA 30707  
(706) 375-3195  
www.chickamauga.com

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December 29, 2022

The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel  
Chairwoman  
Federal Communications Commission  
45 L Street, NE  
Washington, DC 20554

The Honorable Alan Davidson  
Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications & Information  
National Telecommunications and Information Administration  
1401 Constitution Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Chairwoman Rosenworcel and Administrator Davidson:

Based on the information provided to us within Georgia's comprehensive location-level broadband data set, our communities are very concerned about the FCC Map fabric and service availability inaccuracies. With potentially 220,000 unserved locations in Georgia missing from the FCC fabric, the negative impact on attaining universal broadband deployment and providing relief to the unserved locations in our communities would be significant. Because the FCC Map will be determining the amount of BEAD funds the state can allocate to bring high-speed internet to unserved rural communities, like ours, we strongly encourage an extension of the January 13, 2023 and June 30, 2023 deadlines to properly correct the locations that are not currently listed in the federal data.

We all want to see high-speed internet in our communities quickly, but if the NTIA for expediency's sake bases the states/territories' allocations on flawed data then our communities might be looked over again for precious and limited broadband resources. Thank you for your full consideration of Georgia's extension request.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Christa Alexander'.

Christa Alexander  
CEO, Chickamauga Telephone Corp.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Ali Alexander Phillips'.

Ali Alexander Phillips  
VP of Operations, Chickamauga Telephone Corp.



January 10, 2023

The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel  
Chairwoman  
Federal Communications Commission  
45 L Street N.E.  
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Ms. Rosenworcel:

Re: Extension of the Challenge Period for the New FCC Broadband Maps

I am writing to request that the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) extends the challenge period for the new FCC broadband maps that were published at the end of 2022. Currently, all challenges to these maps must be submitted by January 13, 2023; however, given the importance of this issue to Crawford County that deadline is too early,

The lack of high-speed internet is a basic quality of life issue that adversely affects hundreds or even thousands of our residents. Many schoolchildren in underserved areas have already suffered through the COVID-19 pandemic with an inability to access basic internet connectivity for their class work. Lack of broadband access can also impede the work of businesses and even basic communication among families and friends. Therefore, accurate maps are essential to ensuring that all unserved locations are included in the FCC broadband maps.

Statewide, there may be as many as 220,000 unserved locations. This is a tremendous amount of work to verify these locations and determine the validity of FCC data; this work is far too important to rush. In our community we are overwhelmed with the challenges and need your expert assistance.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (478)836-3497.

Sincerely,

Tisa Horton  
Executive Director  
Crawford County Development Authority

cc: Hon. Alan Davidson, NTIA Administrator  
Hon. Jon Ossoff, U.S. Senator, State of Georgia



January 9, 2023

The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel  
Chairwoman, Federal Communications Commission  
45 L Street NE  
Washington, DC. 20554

The Honorable Alan Davidson  
Assistant Secretary and Administrator  
National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)  
U.S. Department of Commerce  
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC. 20230

**SUBJECT:** FCC Maps and BEAD

Dear Sir and Ma'am:

First off, I appreciate your efforts and inroads in seeking to provide broadband internet capacity to our nation. It's a fundamental necessity to so many Americans and even more so to those living in rural areas where dependable availability is a challenge.

On behalf of the rural citizens of Dodge County, Georgia, I am requesting that you consider extending the timeframe prior to using the established FCC maps for consideration of BEAD awards. The additional timing will allow us to validate the FCC maps and its data. It's imperative that we have accurate data prior to investing these funds into our infrastructure. Your help and assistance in this matter is greatly appreciated.

Respectfully,

Robert Pruitt  
Executive Director  
Dodge County Eastman Development Authority

Cc: Senator John Ossoff

January 9, 2023

To Whom It May Concern

Timely implementation of broadband is very important to those of us in rural areas for many reasons. We need it for workforce development (e.g., learning, education, advanced degrees, certificates), jobs (e.g., increasing number of companies employing "work-at-home" personnel), economic improvement/advancement, healthcare (e.g., telemedicine), and overall lifestyle changes/expectations as modern technology further advances everyday living. The longer that access to sufficient broadband is detained from rural areas, the greater the difference between those desiring to grow and those already on a glidepath of growth. For these reasons and more, my county, our local communities and our regional area need high speed internet access.

Because this is important, I am asking for consideration of an extension to ensure the FCC map being used for decisions of broadband funding allocations before the FCC/NTIA begins their allocations to the states. More time is needed before the allocations of funding begins, so that the rural areas can validate their coverage on the FCC broadband maps. It's my understanding that the FCC/NTIA plan to allocate broadband funding using the existing FCC map and those in rural areas are expected to challenge the numbers after the allocations of broadband funding to states. However, we believe this approach will delay/impede adequate broadband in rural areas of Georgia, which is the objective of the infrastructure act for effective internet access for all.

Respectively,

Andrea S. McCranie

Member, Eastman Downtown Development  
Authority

January 9, 2023

To Whom it May Concern

It is my understanding that the FCC/NTIA plan to allocate broadband funding using the FCC map that indicates currently existing broadband coverage. It is also my understanding that many in rural areas believe the data used for establishing this map may not reflect reality. This is due to two elements: a. the process used anticipates that those of us in rural areas are expected the challenge the broadband access numbers for our area AFTER the allocations of Broadband funding to states begins, and b. the mapping data, as provided by the existing, longstanding, internet service providers in our area likely does not reflect an accurate accounting of broadband access in our area. We believe this approach will delay the timelines for adequate deployment of broadband in the rural areas of Georgia, and specifically, to Dodge County. An independent evaluation of our current broadband coverage, or lack thereof, will provide a better view of our local broadband access.

Timely implementation of broadband in Dodge County is very important to me. I am a 'work-at-home' employee, and am required to process large mixed data and image files, which is quite a challenge for my current internet access. Many days, it is very difficult to download these large files, and close to impossible to upload the edited files, especially during peak usage hours. Often, I find it necessary to perform the data-intensive functions either before 8AM, or after 10PM, when most of the users competing for bandwidth in our neighborhood are offline. The longer that access to sufficient broadband is unavailable in our rural area, the greater the difference between communities desiring to grow, like ours, and those already on the glidepath of growth.

Please do not let the train leave the station with the same people left behind. We simply ask that more time be given before the allocation of funding begins, so that those of us in rural areas can validate our coverage on the FCC broadband maps.

Respectfully,



John M. Flanagan

Resident, Dodge County, Georgia



January 10, 2023

The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel  
Chairwoman, Federal Communications  
Commission  
45 L Street, NE  
Washington, DC 20554

The Honorable Alan Davidson  
Assistant Secretary and Administrator  
National Telecommunication and Information  
Administration  
United States Department of Commerce  
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Chairwoman Rosenworcel and Administrator Davidson,

I write to first thank you for your dedication to broadband deployment across rural America. Our association is made up of the dedicated community-based providers in rural Georgia. They are the ISP's invested in the communities they serve and have on a widespread scale served their tradition ILEC's with high-speed broadband for many years. When the Georgia Map was launched, the served areas on the map almost identically depicted the ILEC's of our members. Our mission is keeping our communities and they have been edging out into communities adjacent to their existing footprints that are unserved. Throughout the FCC Fabric and BDC Map process, our members have seen firsthand, errors and misrepresentations of service speeds in the fabric but challenges for those things do not have a quick solution. If the service area is not already in their footprint, a bulk challenge is not available, forcing address by address challenges. This time intensive detailed work does not happen quickly. Couple this with the discovery of over 200K locations not even listed on the FCC map proves that much work is still to be done on ensuring accuracy in what locations are unserved and underserved.

As you are aware maps are merely a snapshot in time, but we must take the time necessary to ensure the snap shot taken is correctly printed and used for the allocations to States.

While the need for broadband expediency is exponential, and the timeline for funding the hardest to reach rural areas is understood, it is vital for each State to receive adequate funding for locations without broadband. If the COVID pandemic revealed nothing else, it certainly revealed the need for all Americans to have access to connectivity.

For the reasons stated above we strongly support our congressional delegation and the state of Georgia's advocacy in requesting an extension to the January 13, 2023 challenge deadline

Thank you for your consideration of our request and if we can be of service for questions, feel free to reach out to me.

Sincerely,  
  
Rhonda Chatham  
Executive Director



January 09, 2023

The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel  
Chairwoman, Federal Communications Commission  
45 L Street, NE  
Washington, DC 20554

The Honorable Alan Davidson  
Assistant Secretary and Administrator  
National Telecommunication and Information Administration  
United States Department of Commerce  
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20230



Dear Chairwoman and Assistant Secretary and Administrator,

As a State of Georgia Capital Projects Fund preliminary awardee, ILEC, CLEC, as well as an Affordable Connectivity Provider, Glenwood Telephone Company (GTC) urges a 60-day extension for FCC Mapping and Fabric Challenges. We are concerned with addressing and GPS inaccuracies along with service area location accuracy within Wheeler, Montgomery, and Laurens Counties in Georgia and feel inaccuracies in the FCC Fabric and therefore the FCC Broadband Map would drastically reduce the amount of funding Georgia would get to utilize for grants and Glenwood Telephone Company could potentially obtain from BEAD funding to serve the remaining unserved residents and businesses in areas we provide service.

I have seen the inaccuracies in the Fabric data firsthand, with my own home located at 430 Snowhill Church Rd. Glenwood, GA 30428, being one of the Fabric locations which is inaccurately reported, both by address and GPS position. Even with hiring Professional Engineering services, GTC needs more time to dive deep into the many inaccuracies to provide feedback and challenges to the FCC fabric. As a small company we also don't have the dedicated resources to focus on Fabric inaccuracies which future funding will rely on.

Also, with us being a very recent preliminary awardee of State of Georgia Capital Projects Funding GTC would like to ensure our preliminary awarded eligible locations are accurately reported. It is critical for a small company like us to have time and every available opportunity to ensure accuracy prior to potential duplicate funds made available in our service areas. We strongly believe the State of Georgia Broadband map is much more accurate than the FCC map in its current state.

 (912) 523-5111  
 [info@gtconline.com](mailto:info@gtconline.com)

 [www.gtconline.com](http://www.gtconline.com)  
 PO BOX 235, Glenwood GA 30428





I strongly believe it is crucial that extra time is provided to ensure accurate mapping data. As the old saying goes "garbage in equals garbage out." More time should allow small telecoms and ISP's like mine time to challenge any inaccuracies. Hopefully additional time will allow BEAD funding to be distributed judiciously and make the real difference the underserved and unserved need to build the bridge across the digital divide for them.


Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James T. O'Brien", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the left.

James T. O'Brien

Owner / CEO

CC: Senator John Ossoff

 (912) 523-5111

 [info@gtconline.com](mailto:info@gtconline.com)

 [www.gtconline.com](http://www.gtconline.com)

 PO BOX 235, Glenwood GA 30428



President  
Julie Smith  
*Mayor, Tifton*

First Vice President  
Randall Walker  
*Mayor, Perry*

Second Vice President  
Fred Perriman  
*Mayor, Madison*

Third Vice President  
Bianca Motley Broom  
*Mayor, College Park*

Immediate Past President  
Vince Williams  
*Mayor, Union City*

CEO and Executive Director  
Larry H. Hanson

January 9, 2023

The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel  
Chairwoman  
Federal Communications Commission 45 L Street N.E.  
Washington, DC 20554

The Honorable Alan Davidson  
Assistant Secretary and Administrator  
National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)  
U.S. Department of Commerce  
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Chair Rosenworcel and Assistant Secretary Davidson:

On behalf of the Georgia Municipal Association and our 537 member cities, I am writing to urge you to extend the deadline to make challenges to the FCC's proposed broadband map by 60 days. The current deadline of January 13 is not enough time to ensure the accuracy of the map that will be the basis of allocating billions of federal dollars for broadband projects in Georgia.

The FCC released the underlying map fabric, a list of all serviceable locations, on September 12, 2022, and information regarding internet speeds and availability at those locations on November 18, 2022. Guidelines issued by the FCC and NTIA set a deadline of January 13, 2023, for bulk challenges to fabric and availability data. Georgia's Director of Broadband Initiatives estimates that the FCC's current proposed map may be missing as many as 220,000 unserved and underserved locations in the state, largely in rural areas.

Six weeks, including holidays, is not enough time for a comprehensive review of these maps. We need more time to make sure the maps reflect the needs in communities statewide. Under H.R. 3684, the "Bipartisan Infrastructure Law", NTIA must allocate funding through the new, national location-level map developed by the FCC. The accuracy of this new map is critical to the rollout of broadband programs, such as the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Program. Georgia has been a leader in the U.S. in developing accurate broadband maps down to the address level. With additional time, state broadband officials and local leaders can work together for a comprehensive review of the FCC maps and ensure the FCC's maps reflect conditions on the ground.

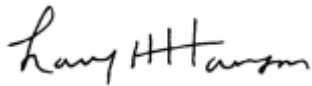
It is imperative that we get these maps right the first time to ensure that the communities that need help the most will have access to federal funds to provide affordable, reliable, high-speed broadband service to residents and businesses. Current estimates indicate over 1 million Georgians lack broadband access. This is unacceptable in an era where broadband service is as critical as electricity for residents' quality of life and to obtain health care, education, and other essential services. As we witnessed during the pandemic, broadband is a necessity and a failure to address issue creates even greater inequity for many of our most vulnerable residents who were disproportionately impacted during COVID-19, including low-income, rural, and communities of color. Reliable broadband is also essential for economic development and our ability to attract employers and high-quality jobs throughout Georgia.

This work is too important to the future of communities across the state, and the future of Georgia, for us to fail. GMA's goal is to promote accurate mapping and the efficient and effective use of federal resources. Specifically, we request:

- The FCC extend the January 13, 2023, filing deadline for bulk challenges, including both fabric and availability challenges, by 60 days;
- The NTIA extends by 60 days its timeline for announcing BEAD Program allocations to account for challenges made by the extended deadline; and
- The FCC and NTIA commit to expeditiously reviewing any challenges they receive and to communicate any issues they anticipate in reviewing all challenges received in a timely manner, including any additional resources or authorities necessary.

GMA and our members stand ready to work with you and your agencies to insure broadband access for all Georgians. If you have any questions or require additional information, please let me know.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Larry H. Hanson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "L" and "H".

Larry H. Hanson  
CEO and Executive Director



January 6, 2023

The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel  
Chairwoman, Federal Communications Commission  
45 L Street NE  
Washington, DC. 20554

The Honorable Alan Davidson  
Assistant Secretary and Administrator  
National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)  
U.S. Department of Commerce  
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC. 20230

Copy- The Honorable Jon Ossoff  
United States Senator for Georgia

Dear Chairwoman Rosenworcel and Administrator Davidson:

Having reliable and affordable broadband service is a critical infrastructure need for our community. Fortunately, the need to deploy broadband service has been recognized and assistance is on the way. Private investment like the partnership with Jackson Electric Membership and TruVista is bringing new broadband service to previously unserved homes and businesses in Jackson County. This private investment combined with public funding such as the \$42.5 billion from the Broadband Equity, Access and Deployment (BEAD) program and other new federal investments will be transformative steps for our community and region as a whole.

However, a January 13 deadline for challenges to the new, national FCC map is not enough time to ensure an accurate map to appropriately allocate billions of federal dollars. In Georgia, our Department of Community Affairs (DCA) has created a map that looks at served areas differently than the FCC maps. The current FCC maps look at Census blocks. If just one residence or business in the Census block is served, it appears the entire block is served. However, the DCA map is location based. This means that broadband service must be available in 80% of the Census block to be considered served.

It is estimated that using the current FCC methodology the broadband needs of 220,000 households, businesses, and other locations in Georgia are not properly reflected in the FCC map, potentially costing the state millions of dollars in funding.

This work is too important to the future of our community to rush. The COVID-19 pandemic amplified the need for broadband service as students had to learn virtually and doctor's appointments were moved online. Not having access to internet services puts our rural community at a disadvantage for economic development growth opportunities and negative impacts the quality of life for our citizens.

We urge you to extend the deadline so rural Georgia communities can be properly counted and our state and local leaders can be best informed on how to allocate broadband funding.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jim Shaw".

Jim Shaw  
President/CEO

January 6, 2023

The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel  
Chairwoman, Federal Communications Commission  
45 L Street NE  
Washington, DC. 20554

The Honorable Alan Davidson  
Assistant Secretary and Administrator  
National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)  
U.S. Department of Commerce  
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC. 20230

Copy- The Honorable Jon Ossoff  
United States Senator for Georgia

Dear Chairwoman Rosenworcel and Administrator Davidson:

Having reliable and affordable broadband service is a critical infrastructure need for our community. Fortunately, the need to deploy broadband service has been recognized and assistance is on the way. Private investment like the partnership with Jackson Electric Membership and TruVista is bringing new broadband service to previously unserved homes and businesses in Madison County. This private investment combined with public funding such as the \$42.5 billion from the Broadband Equity, Access and Deployment (BEAD) program and other new federal investments will be transformative steps for our community and region as a whole.

However, a January 13 deadline for challenges to the new, national FCC map is not enough time to ensure an accurate map to appropriately allocate billions of federal dollars. In Georgia, our Department of Community Affairs (DCA) has created a map that looks at served areas differently than the FCC maps. The current FCC maps look at Census blocks. If just one residence or business in the Census block is served, it appears the entire block is served. However, the DCA map is location based. This means that broadband service must be available in 80% of the Census block to be considered served.

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We urge you to extend the deadline so rural Georgia communities can be properly counted and our state and local leaders can be best informed on how to allocate broadband funding.

Sincerely,



Anna Strickland, Executive Director  
Madison County Chamber of Commerce | *Executive Director*  
800 Madison St. | P.O. Box 381 | Danielsville, GA 30633  
office 706-795-2191 Ext.1453 | [astrickland@madisoncountyga.org](mailto:astrickland@madisoncountyga.org)



# MSB

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## MAGNOLIA STATE BANK

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January 9, 2023

To Whom It May Concern

Timely implementation of broadband is very important to those of us in rural areas for many reasons. We need it for workforce development (e.g., learning, education, advanced degrees, certificates), jobs (e.g., increasing number of companies employing "work-at-home" personnel), economic improvement/advancement, healthcare (e.g., telemedicine), and overall lifestyle changes/expectations as modern technology further advances everyday living. The longer that access to sufficient broadband is detained from rural areas, the greater the difference between those desiring to grow and those already on a glidepath of growth. For these reasons and more, my county, our local communities and our regional area need high speed internet access.

Because this is important, I am asking for consideration of an extension to ensure the FCC map being used for decisions of broadband funding allocations before the FCC/NTIA begins their allocations to the states. More time is needed before the allocations of funding begins, so that the rural areas can validate their coverage on the FCC broadband maps. It's my understanding that the FCC/NTIA plan to allocate broadband funding using the existing FCC map and those in rural areas are expected to challenge the numbers after the allocations of broadband funding to states. However, we believe this approach will delay/impede adequate broadband in rural areas of Georgia, which is the objective of the infrastructure act for effective internet access for all.

Respectively,



Allen N. Long

Chief lending Officer

*Banking with Tradition, Building for Tomorrow*



January 6, 2023

The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel  
Chairwoman  
Federal Communications Commission  
45 L Street NE  
Washington, DC 20554

The Honorable Alan Davidson  
Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information  
National Telecommunications and Information Administration  
United States Department of Commerce  
1401 Constitution Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Chairwoman Rosenworcel and Assistant Secretary Davidson:

I am the president and chief executive officer of Public Service Telephone Company (PSTC) in Reynolds, Georgia. PSTC provides all types of telecommunications and broadband services to businesses and residents in Bibb, Crawford, Marion, Monroe, Muscogee, Talbot, and Taylor Counties with the vast majority of our customers being located in rural areas of our state.

Based on the information provided to PSTC within Georgia's comprehensive location-level broadband data set, our communities are very concerned about the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Map fabric and service availability inaccuracies. With potentially 220,000 unserved locations in Georgia missing from the FCC fabric, the negative impact on attaining universal broadband deployment and providing relief to the unserved locations in our communities would be significant. Because the FCC Map will be determining the amount of Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Program funds the state can allocate to bring high-speed internet to unserved and underserved rural communities, like ours, we strongly encourage an extension of the January 13, 2023 and June 30, 2023 deadlines to properly correct the locations that are not currently listed in the federal data.

PSTC certainly wants to provide high-speed internet throughout the communities it serves as quickly as possible. However, if the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) bases its allocations to the states on flawed data, then our communities, as well as other communities throughout the country, may be harmed by not receiving the precious and limited broadband resources they desperately need.

I appreciate your time in reading my letter and your consideration of PSTC's, and the state of Georgia's, extension request.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'James L. Bond', is written over a large, circular blue ink scribble.

James L. Bond

P.O. BOX 397 • 8 NORTH WINSTON ST • REYNOLDS, GA 31076  
(478) 847-4111 • TOLL FREE (888) 593-7782 • FAX (478) 847-2013

[WWW.PSTEL.COM](http://WWW.PSTEL.COM)



# Stuckey Timberland, Inc.

555 HAWKINSVILLE HIGHWAY  
P.O. BOX 577 January 9, 2023  
EASTMAN, GEORGIA 31023-0577  
(478) 374-4776  
[www.stuckeytimberland.com](http://www.stuckeytimberland.com)

To Whom It May Concern

Timely implementation of broadband is very important to those of us in rural areas for many reasons. We need it for workforce development (e.g., learning, education, advanced degrees, certificates), jobs (e.g., increasing number of companies employing "work-at-home" personnel), economic improvement/advancement, healthcare (e.g., telemedicine), and overall lifestyle changes/expectations as modern technology further advances everyday living. The longer that access to sufficient broadband is detained from rural areas, the greater the difference between those desiring to grow and those already on a glidepath of growth. For these reasons and more, my county, our local communities and our regional area need high speed internet access.

Because this is important, I am asking for consideration of an extension to ensure the FCC map being used for decisions of broadband funding allocations before the FCC/NTIA begins their allocations to the states. More time is needed before the allocations of funding begins, so that the rural areas can validate their coverage on the FCC broadband maps. It is my understanding that the FCC/NTIA plan to allocate broadband funding using the existing FCC map and those in rural areas are expected to challenge the numbers after the allocations of broadband funding to states. However, we believe this approach will delay/impede adequate broadband in rural areas of Georgia, which is the objective of the infrastructure act for effective internet access for all.

Good, dependable broadband access is vitally important to our business. Also, being able to timely respond to business matters, regardless of our location (which often is in rural parts of Georgia,) is important. This need extends from our office to our home.

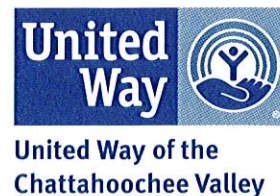
Thanks for your consideration.

Respectively,  
Stuckey Timberland, Inc.

Wade B. Hall  
Chairman/CEO



P.O. Box 1157  
Columbus, GA 31902  
706-327-3255  
706-571-2271 Fax  
unitedwayofthecv.org



January 10, 2023

The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel  
Chairwoman, Federal Communications Commission  
45 L Street NE  
Washington, DC. 20554

The Honorable Alan Davidson  
Assistant Secretary and Administrator  
National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)  
U.Ss Department of Commerce  
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC. 20230

Copy: The Honorable Jon Ossoff  
United States Senator for Georgia

Dear Chairwoman Rosenworcel and Administrator Davidson,

United Way of the Chattahoochee Valley is committed to advancing equity and achieving child, family, and community well-being. We are focused on improving outcomes in three priority areas: educational equity, health access, and economic mobility. We partner with more than 100 local and regional systems, businesses, and organizations and are based in the second largest city and fourth largest metropolitan area in Georgia. While much of our population lives in more urban areas, most of our geographic area is rural – with poverty rates higher than national and state averages across all parts of the region. Broadband access is critically important for all children, adults, and families, and needed to succeed today and to thrive in the digitally and globally connected world.

The FCC plays a vital role across our community, state, and nation. The efforts taken to establish new national maps are critically important and will invest billions of dollars in increasing broadband equity, access, and deployment. While the proposed map has some advancements over earlier versions, there are several ongoing concerns. Most concerning is that the preliminary FCC map does not accurately represent the reality of broadband availability across the state. It is estimated that the broadband need of 220,000 households, businesses, and other locations in Georgia are not properly reflected in the FCC map.

The importance of broadband access has long been important in our community. The gap in availability, access, and digital equity became increasingly apparent during the pandemic. Without consistent, adequate, and reliable broadband access, children face barriers to learning, adults cannot participate or advance in many areas of employment,

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and families miss opportunities to thrive in an environment where digital access is required for an increasing number of essential activities. Today, digital access is not a luxury and ensuring broadband coverage for all citizens is essential.

Due to the significance of this work, we thoughtfully request an extension to the deadline of January 13, 2023, for challenges and public comment on the map's accuracy. This timeline is too short to ensure an accurate map that will determine the allocation for billions of federal dollars. Additionally, we request improved processes for local and state leaders to be prepared for funding distributions. This work impacts all aspects of daily life, current prosperity, and future opportunities for children, families, and businesses.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jennifer St John". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jennifer St John  
Chief Impact Officer