January 30, 2017

President Donald J. Trump
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We share your commitment to making investments in our nation’s infrastructure that create good jobs and boost economic productivity.

As you consider the parameters of your infrastructure proposal to Congress, we write to urge you to include investments that will bring the benefits of broadband connectivity to rural America. In the 21st Century, high-speed internet access is no longer a luxury amenity, but rather an essential service for homes and businesses in this interconnected world. No other technology has produced as much innovation, competition, and economic growth.

Unfortunately, rural Americans in our districts lack sufficient broadband infrastructure to take advantage of this explosion of technology and economic possibility. The digital divide between rural and urban America is significant.

Simply put, rural communities cannot attract and retain businesses and human resources if they are insufficiently connected. Broadband allows rural Americans to communicate with friends and families and access entertainment. It provides businesses access to global customers to reach and drive economic development. It facilitates agricultural efficiency for farmers, supplies students and teachers with unlimited access to educational materials, and ensures a timely response to health and safety emergencies by first responders.

We look forward to working with you and your administration to advance an infrastructure package that bridges America’s digital divide by ensuring essential broadband infrastructure in rural areas of our country.

Sincerely,
PETER WELCH  
Member of Congress

MARK POCAN  
Member of Congress

ADAM KINZINGER  
Member of Congress

ROBERT E. LATTA  
Member of Congress

DAVID LOEBSACK  
Member of Congress

KEVIN CRAMER  
Member of Congress

JARED POLIS  
Member of Congress

BARRBARA COMSTOCK  
Member of Congress

LARRY BUCSHON, M.D.  
Member of Congress

SEAN P. DUFFY  
Member of Congress

RON KIND  
Member of Congress

DEREK KILMER  
Member of Congress

SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.  
Member of Congress

RAUL GRIJALVA  
Member of Congress

BILL JOHNSON  
Member of Congress

WALTER B. JONES  
Member of Congress
RICHARD HUDSON
Member of Congress

JAMES P. MCGOVERN
Member of Congress

MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM
Member of Congress

ERIC CRAWFORD
Member of Congress

CHELLIE PINGREE
Member of Congress

TIMOTHY J. WALZ
Member of Congress

DOUG LAMALFA
Member of Congress

SAM GRAVES
Member of Congress

RICHARD NOLAN
Member of Congress

TOM EMMER
Member of Congress

KRISTI NOEM
Member of Congress

Evan Jenkins
Member of Congress

JARED HUFFMAN
Member of Congress

PETER DEFAZIO
Member of Congress

CHERI BUSTOS
Member of Congress

SCOTT TIPTON
Member of Congress
DAVID YOUNG
Member of Congress

JEFF FORTENBERRY
Member of Congress

BLAINE LUETKEMEYER
Member of Congress

DOUG COLLINS
Member of Congress

EARL L. "BUDDY" CARTER
Member of Congress

ROBERT WOODALL
Member of Congress

PAT TIBERI
Member of Congress

VICKY HARTZLER
Member of Congress

JASON SMITH
Member of Congress

TIM WALBERG
Member of Congress

AUSTIN SCOTT
Member of Congress

BILL HUIZENGA
Member of Congress

DAVID G. VALADAO
Member of Congress

PAUL MITCHELL
Member of Congress

BRUCE WESTERMAN
Member of Congress

PAUL D. TONKO
Member of Congress
JACKIE WALORSKI
Member of Congress

ELISE STEFANIK
Member of Congress

BEN RAY LUJAN
Member of Congress

JOHN MOOLENAAR
Member of Congress

DON BACON
Member of Congress

BRUCE POLIQUIN
Member of Congress

MIKE BOST
Member of Congress

EMANUEL CLEAVER
Member of Congress

BILLY LONG
Member of Congress

RALPH LEE ABRAHAM
Member of Congress

TRENT KELLY
Member of Congress

RICK ALLEN
Member of Congress

MIKE THOMPSON
Member of Congress

DAVID ROUZER
Member of Congress

DAVID SCOTT
Member of Congress

ED PERLMUTTER
Member of Congress
LUKE MESSER  
Member of Congress

H. MORGAN GRIFFITH  
Member of Congress

MM BANKS  
Member of Congress

HAROLD ROGERS  
Member of Congress

TODD ROKITA  
Member of Congress

JODY HICE  
Member of Congress

DREW FERGUSON  
Member of Congress