

CITY OF



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February 28, 2019

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CITY CLERK

JAMES R. MILHISER
TREASURER

The Honorable Anna Eshoo
241 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Re: House Resolution 530 – Notice of Support

Dear Congresswoman Eshoo,

On behalf of the City of Ontario, California, I am writing to express support for your H.R. 530, the Accelerating Broadband Development by Empowering Local Communities Act of 2019. This critical legislation would halt detrimental actions taken by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) in 2018 and would return authority over public rights-of-way back to local jurisdictions.

The City of Ontario supports the FCC's mission of providing the best possible internet service to communities across the country, and we have significantly invested both labor and infrastructure to provide affordable and reliable broadband to our residents. However, the regulations instituted by the FCC would have allowed corporations to take control of public rights-of-way without a reasonable process that ensures just compensation and maintenance, and with little oversight on quality and aesthetics. Without the ability to properly conduct a review process it is unsure whether residents would benefit from the digital services, and whether the technology can be safely delivered to our community. Most importantly, local governments would face financial uncertainty, having to allow for the installation of broadband facilities without a clear picture of the fiscal impact it could have on the City.

We encourage public-private cooperation to increase innovation and provide the best quality services to our City. This legislation will assist in setting the various stakeholders back on a path of collaboration that will continue to foster strong partnerships between both sectors. For these reasons the City of Ontario strongly supports H.R. 530.

Sincerely,

Paul S. Leon
Mayor