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October 29, 2009

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Julius Genachowski
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Petitions before the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) for Declaratory Ruling
re: Public, Educational and Governmental (PEG) Channels, MB Docket No. 09-13, CSR-8126
(ACM *et al.*), CRS-8127 (City of Lansing, MI), and CSR-8128 (City of Dearborn, MI *et al.*)

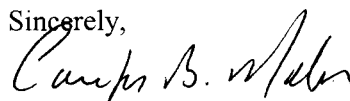
Dear Chairman Genachowski:

I am writing to you to convey my strong support of the three above-mentioned petitions to safeguard PEG cable cast channels. PEG channels are an invaluable tool that safeguards localism, diversity, and free speech in the nation's media landscape.

For over 40 years, PEG cable cast channels have been forums for the development of free speech and marketplace of ideas. They give citizens the opportunity to see their local government in action by providing live and repeat coverage of local council, commission, and school board meetings, election debates, public hearings, public policy forums, and community events, with both live and taped cable casts. As a result, PEG channels have become a unique source of community-based, local information in New York City and throughout the country. In these difficult economic times, it is particularly important that citizens have the opportunity to see and hear how their elected officials are responding to the current conditions.

PEG channels also provide important local programming that otherwise would not be available. For example, PEG centers help educators at local schools, community colleges, and universities use technology to support their teaching. In addition, they support literacy and language development, including closed captioning and second audio programming, which meets the needs of significant sectors of the community. For all the foregoing reasons, I urge the Commission to give its favorable consideration to the three above-mentioned petitions, consistent with all applicable rules and regulations.

Sincerely,


CAROLYN B. MALONEY
Member of Congress

CBM/gs

cc: Commissioner Meredith Attwell Baker
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn
Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Commissioner Robert M. McDowell
FCC Secretary Marlene H. Dortch
Dan Coughlin, Executive Director, Manhattan Neighborhood Network

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