



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF  
THE CHAIRMAN

November 27, 2018

The Honorable Amy Klobuchar  
United States Senate  
302 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Klobuchar:

Thank you for your letter about broadband mapping. Closing the digital divide is one of my top priorities. As you know, I grew up in Parsons, Kansas and have traveled during my time at the Commission to locations as varied as Utqiagvik, Alaska, Madelia, Minnesota, and Capon Springs, West Virginia. I have seen with my own eyes what affordable high-speed Internet access can do for a community—for its schools, its libraries, and its hospitals, and for those American communities struggling to stay afloat.

I agree that maintaining updated and accurate broadband deployment data is critical to bridging the digital divide. We need to understand where broadband is available and where it is not in order to target our efforts and limited funding to areas that are most in need. That is why, in an August 2017 *Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*, the Commission initiated a proceeding to take a focused look at FCC Form 477—the principal tool used by the Commission to gather data on communications services, including broadband services—to explore how we can revise aspects of the data collection to increase its usefulness to the Commission, Congress, the industry, and the public. Commission staff is carefully reviewing the record in the *Further Notice*, and your letter will be entered into the record and considered as part of the Commission's review.

In your letter, you encourage the Commission to use consumer-reported data to increase the accuracy of the Commission's mobile coverage maps. We continue to look into ways to collect and use accurate data from any source, including consumers themselves, to assemble a reliable map. As you may know, the Commission's Speed Test App is one way consumers can participate in collecting data about broadband deployment, and our staff are examining if it could be leveraged to better understand wireless broadband network performance.

I appreciate your continued interest in this matter. Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ajit V. Pai".

Ajit V. Pai



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF  
THE CHAIRMAN

November 27, 2018

The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito  
United States Senate  
172 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Capito:

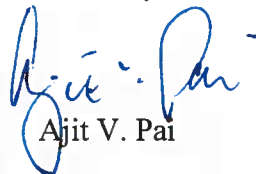
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Sincerely,

  
Ajit V. Pai

Senator, I just wanted to thank you so much for your support over the past two years. On this issue and others, from DC to Capon Springs, you've been a terrific leader on broadband!