

**Resolution**  
**Loudoun County Economic Development Commission**  
**Support of County-Wide Broadband Infrastructure**

**WHEREAS**, access to reliable, high-speed telecommunications technology (commonly termed “broadband”) is essential to the economic development of a region in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, just as electricity was in the 20<sup>th</sup> century; and

**WHEREAS**, the Loudoun County Economic Development Commission (“EDC”) conducted a study of broadband in 2004 and determined that access to broadband in Loudoun County, especially in western Loudoun County, is not competitive with the access available in our peer counties; and

**WHEREAS**, the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors subsequently took action by hiring a broadband manager who conducted research that concluded it is cost prohibitive for the public sector to fund the necessary infrastructure to provide this basic utility to all the citizens and businesses in Loudoun County; and

**WHEREAS**, it is clear that private sector investment in wireless broadband is the only viable solution for Loudoun County to significantly increase access to broadband in western Loudoun County in the short term; and

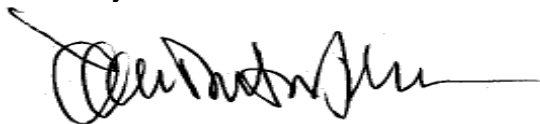
**WHEREAS**, Loudoun County granted a cable franchise to Verizon and Comcast, thereby enabling them to provide cable TV – and with it broadband access – to the vast majority of eastern Loudoun County; and

**WHEREAS**, Loudoun County’s telecommunications’ consultant (The Atlantic Group of Companies, Inc.) produced a study dated May 25, 2007 advocating the need for numerous additional towers in Loudoun County to enable wireless services; and

**WHEREAS**, the availability of wireless broadband services in Loudoun County should be encouraged through free market competition; and

**WHEREAS**, the EDC concurs with the range of opportunities the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors is currently considering for encouraging private sector investment in wireless broadband infrastructure, including the creation of a special tax classification and the consideration of various applications for telecommunications structures/towers;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that: in order to accelerate access to broadband throughout Loudoun County, the EDC encourages the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors to consider the applications, opportunities and other proposals before them from the private sector related to broadband access during this calendar year.



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By: Tamar Datan Johnston,  
Chairman Loudoun County Economic Development Commission  
September 7, 2007