

# Broadband Mapping Initiative: What Others Are Saying

“I am glad to see that Virginia was chosen as one of the pilot states for this initiative. This data will be gathered and shared with consumers as well as the Federal Communications Commission and will hopefully be a productive step towards accurate and comprehensive broadband maps.”

**REPRESENTATIVE MORGAN GRIFFITH (R-VA)**

“I am pleased USTelecom, along with broadband industry partners ITTA and WISPA, and the participating carriers, are taking up this cause.” ... “By testing out new ideas on the ground, it is my hope this pilot and similar initiatives will give the Commission and other interested stakeholders useful information to consider as we move ahead.” ... “I certainly look forward to seeing the results of this new pilot project, and by improving our understanding of connectivity gaps in our country, we can improve our ability to close those gaps and to achieve the overriding, bipartisan goal, of bringing digital opportunity to all Americans.” ... “This is the calling of our time, and having a more accurate set of data to work on helps us achieve that calling.”

**AJIT PAI, CHAIRMAN, FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION**

“Windstream is proud to support and participate in USTelecom’s broadband mapping initiative, which will help ensure that broadband deployment efforts are effectively targeting unserved areas. Our current broadband map lacks sufficient and meaningful detail, because we only report broadband deployment at a census block level. There is no generally available data demonstrating whether specific locations are served or unserved. We agree with FCC Chairman Ajit Pai that maintaining updated and accurate data about broadband deployment is critical to bridging the digital divide. We hope the FCC will use this pilot broadband mapping project going forward, on a nationwide basis. We can’t solve a problem that we don’t fully understand. In the end, robust and complete maps will directly benefit consumers and set the U.S. on a clear path to closing the digital divide.”

**TONY THOMAS, CEO, WINDSTREAM**

“The availability of this information is absolutely essential for Congress to be able to perform its oversight function to ensure that very limited resources are being used intelligently to close the broadband gap as efficiently as possible.”

**DAN BALL, DEPUTY POLICY DIRECTOR, U.S. SENATE COMMERCE COMMITTEE**

“No comprehensive chart of America’s broadband-serviceable locations exists, and its absence is a fundamental problem in our effort to close the digital divide, the lack of broadband availability for tens of millions of Americans.”

**RICHARD BOUCHER, FORMER REPRESENTATIVE (D-VA) AND HONORARY CHAIRMAN, INTERNET INNOVATION ALLIANCE**

“If we are serious about permanently closing the digital divide and extending more broadband to the hardest to reach rural communities, we need better data and a comprehensive map to direct funding to where it can do the most good.”

**ERIC CRAMER, PRESIDENT & CEO, RIVERSTREET NETWORKS**

“Current broadband maps are not complete or accurate and don’t tell the full story of who has – and who doesn’t have – access to modern, reliable internet service. Getting the maps right will arm members of Congress and the Administration with the information they need to allocate federal dollars to the communities across America that lack access to broadband that is essential to fully participate in today’s digital economy.”

**GENNY MORELLI, PRESIDENT, ITTA**

“Accurate broadband mapping helps consumers and policymakers know where broadband services truly are. It fosters competition, boosts innovation, and focuses government support to areas where it is necessary. The Broadband Mapping Initiative will create a new, hyper-accurate roadmap, enabling policymakers and providers to drive broadband where it really needs to go. The initiative will also remove roadblocks that only grow the digital divide, especially in rural and under-served communities. WISPA is pleased to be a part of this pilot program, which will help all Americans understand their Internet options, no matter where they are.”

**CLAUDE AIKEN, PRESIDENT AND CEO, WIRELESS INTERNET SERVICE PROVIDERS ASSOCIATION (WISPA)**

“To have a single database that provides the location data about every location that may be in our service territory would greatly facilitate the ability to assess and then provide service to those locations.” ... “Having a single fabric that the regulators and companies look to in terms of evaluating where locations are, when we’re deploying service to them, and what it’s going to cost is going to be a tremendously effective tool for both sides.”

**NICK ALEXANDER, VICE PRESIDENT, FEDERAL REGULATORY AFFAIRS, CENTURYLINK**