



DONOHUE & STEARNS, PLC

April 19, 2017

Mr. Jon Weinstein, Chair
Howard County Council
George Howard Building
3420 Court House Drive
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043

Cc: Council Members; Allan H. Kittleman; Jennifer Sager

Re: Council Bill No. 26-2017

Chair Weinstein:

On behalf of my client, T-Mobile, I am writing to provide comments on Council Bill No. 26-2017 that is scheduled to be considered by the Howard County Council on April 19, 2017.

T-Mobile supports the proposed legislation that purports to allow for the co-location of wireless facilities on public street lights in the rights-of-way. As a provider of wireless services, T-Mobile recognizes the need to facilitate the deployment of telecommunications facilities that support and supplement macro sites. Council Bill 26-2017 will allow for a stream-lined process through which wireless carriers can secure more small cell co-location opportunities to improve coverage and capacity in the County.

T-Mobile would ultimately like to see legislation that also allows for new structures within the rights-of-way and believes that this can be accomplished without conflict with the currently proposed Bill or existing structures and uses currently allowed in the public rights-of-way. Moreover, we understand that any expansion of right-of-way opportunities will require coordination with the Department of Public Works.

Again, T-Mobile supports the proposed Bill, appreciates the chance to submit comments and would be pleased to work with planning and public works staff on this and other legislation that similarly expands opportunities for wireless service improvement throughout Howard County.

Thank you for your consideration of the above,

Edward L. Donohue



Leonardo McClarty
President/CEO, Howard County Chamber

April 19, 2017

Mr. Jon Weinstein
Howard County Council Chair
George Howard Building
3430 Court House Drive
Ellicott City, MD 21043

Dear Councilman Weinstein:

The Howard County Chamber of Commerce is the preeminent voice for the Howard County business community. As always, we are focused on advocating for pro-business policy and free enterprise. I come to you in support of Howard County Bill Number 26-2017 with Amendments. The ordinance would help keep our county on the forefront of technology by streamlining the process for approving the installation of the wireless broadband infrastructure our residents and businesses want and need.

More than ever before, our companies need strong networks because they rely so much on their smartphones, tablets and videoconferencing tools. Howard County's businesses expect to be able to connect and communicate anywhere, anytime, and from any device to remain competitive.

The modern marketplace never closes and is constantly evolving. We have seen explosive growth in mobile video use and we need our leaders to adopt policies that will keep our businesses and residents connected. Traditional cell towers are not enough to keep up with demand, so the industry is using technology called small cells to provide additional coverage in high-traffic, high-demand areas. This new technology also helps lay the foundation for future technologies, like 5G mobile broadband services.

We hope you will support Howard County Bill Number 26-2017 with Amendments to keep our community on the cutting edge of communication technology. This legislation is absolutely crucial to guaranteeing our county's businesses and residents have the access they need.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Leonardo McClarty".

Leonardo McClarty, CCE
President, Howard County Chamber of Commerce