

Dear Maria Cantwell,

We would like to call your attention to the Washington Rural Broadband Cooperative (WA-RBC) project. This group recently applied for USDA/RUS BIP funding which will not only bring access to high speed internet to the Mt. Baker Foothills, it will bring very high bandwidth broadband service.

This project will enhance the following critical components of my community:

1) Public Safety

The WA-RBC project will interconnect police and fire departments in the Foothills. It will also allow cell phone carriers to finally provide service which enables much quicker response to all types of incidents.

2) Education

Making high speed internet access affordable and available to all the households in the Foothills will help our school district meet upcoming federal mandates to keep schools functioning during a pandemic and increase the availability of enriched curriculum. In addition, the WA-RBC provides tele-learning through the University of Washington and the Tulalip Tribes of Washington as a fundamental and free service to all members of the Cooperative (which we would be). That is in addition to the numerous distance learning opportunities provided by accredited institutions.

3) Tele-Medicine

By interconnecting the Foothills with a very high bandwidth not-for-profit network, doctors from metropolitan hospitals can provide very rapid assessment and guidance to first responders via video conference and tele-presence. This is very important to our community which currently has no physicians at all. Our only medical services at this point are emergency medical/accident responders.

4) Economic Development

The Foothills area has a very high percentage of low income households. With the WA-RBC in place the area would at last be able to develop economically by providing fertile ground for small Internet based businesses, access to adult basic and continuing education opportunities, workforce development, and technology and library resources. With this network in place, there even exists opportunities for larger high tech businesses to locate in the area due to the low real estate cost and very high bandwidth that the WA-RBC will provide.

Please review the WA-RBC project as soon as possible and provide your support in informing the USDA/RUS of the positive impact that this proposal will have on Whatcom County.

From many of the property owners
in the snowline development on highway
542 on the way to Mt. Baker in Glacier,

Thank you,

KEVIN MCKENZIE LOT 7

IAN MCKENZIE LOT 8

Maryann Angus

Maryann Angus lot 26

Elizabeth Standen

ELIZABETH Standen LOT 35

Cynthia Arturo Carson LOT 91

Laura Pina LOT #69

Doug Louth

LOT #47

Tom Doughty LOT #32

Terry Setumala LOT #56

Tom Setumala LOT #257

LARRY OLENAS

LOT #165

Patti Brawer

LOTS 172-177

Michael Brawer

LOTS 172-177

DAVID PARSONS

LOT 146 17-178

Billy ^{Linda} Hawryluk

(604) 270-2946

Phil Dubrowski

604 9289269

John Halcy

John Halcy

Lot 160

Reina Russell

Reina Russell

Lot 232

~~David Poor~~

Sean Peach.

Lot 106

Gary Sulva

Gary Sullivan

Lot 30

Robert Davis

ROBERT DAVIS

Lot 28

~~David Poor~~

DAVID POOR

Lot 145

Clyde McKinney

Cliff McKinney

Lot 192

Cathy & Kent Giles

Cathy & Kent Giles

Lot 179

Rodyn Greenstein

Rodyn Greenstein

Lot 126

Ros Weston

ROS WESTON

Lot 117

Zina Weston

Zina Weston

Lot 117

Bret Gaussoin

BRET GAUSSOIN

Lot 6

Kathy Fazzolare

Kathy Fazzolare

Lot 17

Jeremy Standen

JEREMY STANDEN

Lot 35

Carmen Lystad

CARMEN LYSTAD

Lot 77

Kerstin Poor

KERSTIN POOR

Lot 145

Scott Myler

Scott Myler

Lot 295

Re petition to Ms Cantwell re Broadband.

Ana Wagner

ANA WAGNER

LOT 116

James Kimmel

James Kimmel

lot 103