

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

March 23, 2010

The Honorable Larry Strickling  
Assistant Secretary of Commerce  
Administrator  
National Telecommunications and Information Administration  
U.S. Department of Commerce  
1401 Constitution Ave. NW  
Washington, D.C. 20230

**Re: National Telecommunications Information Administration (NTIA)  
Broadband Technology Opportunities Program  
OMB Control Number 0660-0031  
Comprehensive Community Infrastructure Grant Application – March 26, 2010  
Colorado Community Anchors Broadband Consortium**

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

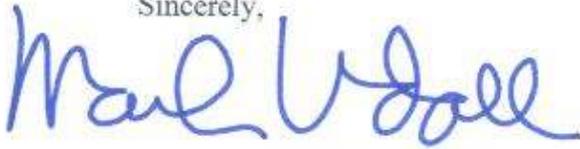
We urge you to favorably consider the Colorado Community Anchors Broadband Consortium (CCABC) application submitted by CBOCES/EAGLE-Net for broadband infrastructure funding from Round Two of the Broadband Technology Opportunity Program (BTOP) with the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA). The EAGLE-Net is a consortium of public and private members, including community colleges, healthcare providers, higher education institutions, K-12 schools, libraries, municipalities, public safety providers, and other Community Anchor Institutions (CAI). These entities have been brought together via a public/private collaboration of the Centennial Board of Cooperative Educational Services (CBOCES) under the EAGLE-Net Gateway, a non-profit Colorado educational services corporation, located in Longmont, Colorado, under its Educational Access Gateway Learning Environment Network (EAGLE-Net). With these funds, EAGLE-Net plans to improve high-speed broadband services to 216 Colorado communities through the Middle Mile network.

As representatives of Colorado's congressional delegation, we are well aware of the inconsistent and in some cases, completely non-existent high speed broadband services for some of our most vulnerable communities. EAGLE-Net's proposal will address this need among the communities where market forces have failed to attract affordable broadband infrastructure and investment. EAGLE-Net will serve as the non-profit network to Community Anchor Institutions throughout the state, including 178 K-12 school districts serving over 2,000 schools & 800,000 students, 16 community colleges, 26 libraries, 12 BOCES, two institutions of higher education, public safety and health care providers, as well as city and county governments. EAGLE-Net will also provide the opportunity to expand service to as many as 3,000 to 4,000 additional Community Anchor locations. Wholesale services offered through EAGLE-Net are expected to stimulate the offering of affordable broadband access for more than 1.2 million households and more than

49,000 businesses. The Middle Mile network architecture includes Adesta, BNI, Conterra and core facilities provided by Qwest and Level 3.

By focusing on a non-profit model and by bringing in the experience of the private sector, this proposal has the potential of truly bridging the middle mile of the digital divide which impacts many of our most vulnerable communities. We ask that you give EAGLE Net's application every appropriate consideration consistent with all applicable laws and regulations. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Mark Udall  
U.S. Senate



Michael Bennet  
U.S. Senate



Diana DeGette  
Member of Congress



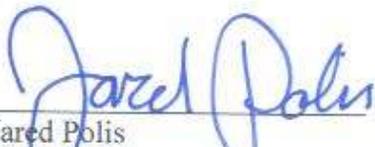
John Salazar  
Member of Congress



Ed Perlmutter  
Member of Congress



Mike Coffman  
Member of Congress



Jared Polis  
Member of Congress



Betsy Markey  
Member of Congress