



February 25, 2019

**MAYOR &
CITY COUNCIL**

Judy Ritter
Mayor

John B. Franklin
Deputy Mayor

Amanda Rigby
Councilmember

Joe Green
Councilmember

Corinna Contreras
Councilmember

CITY MANAGER

Patrick Johnson

The Honorable Anna Eshoo
United States House of Representatives
241 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
Via Fax: (202) 225-8890

RE: H.R. 530 (Eshoo) Accelerating Wireless Broadband Development by Empowering Local Communities Act

Dear Congresswoman Eshoo:

The City of Vista is committed to ensuring our city's digital infrastructure of tomorrow is safe, reliable, and is accessible for everyone. H.R. 530 directly aligns with the City of Vista's Local Control Legislative Policy as it advocates for efforts that enhance local control of resources, programs and tools that allow the City to address the needs and concerns of its residents. It is essential that cities maintain control of the small cell application and review process to ensure safe deployment of this technology and that everyone benefits. The Federal Communications Commission preempted this process in a rushed and overreaching manner. For these reasons, we applaud your effort in restoring authority to the rightful position of local jurisdictions and support the Accelerating Wireless Broadband Development by Empowering Local Communities Act (H.R. 530).

H.R. 530 would return local governments' ability to balance competing interests for the use of the public rights-of-way by overturning actions of the Federal Communications Commission in August and September of 2018. While we support the Commission's goal of ensuring affordable broadband access for every American, the Commission's actions do nothing to achieve that goal. It puts the interests of national corporations over the needs of our communities by making it impossible for local governments to manage the public rights-of-way effectively and equitably. It cedes control of local property to national corporations without fair compensation in return, and without taking into account considerations for closing the digital divide, public safety, public utility services such as water, sewer, and electricity, environmental concerns, and maintenance costs.

Your leadership in passing H.R. 530 is critical to ensuring local governments have the necessary tools to manage local public assets in a manner that balances competing interests while encouraging responsible deployment of wireless broadband facilities. Without this action, cities will face financial strain and potentially delayed progress in adopting to the FCC's overreaching actions. It is necessary for both industry and our residents to reverse the FCC's rules on small cells and restore local control.

Sincerely,

Judy Ritter
Mayor

cc: Senator Kamala Harris, FAX: (202) 228 -3865
Senator Dianne Feinstein, FAX: (202) 228-3954
Senator Patricia Bates, FAX: (916) 651-4936
Office of Assemblymember Tasha Boerner Horvath, Kathleen.Sadd@asm.ca.gov
Office of Congressman Mike Levin, Kyle.Krahel@mail.house.gov
Meg Desmond, League of California Cities, cityletters@cacities.org
David Wetmore, Carpi & Clay dwetmore@carpiclay.com>