

March 22, 2023

RE: Broadband Internet and Cellular Service for Deming, WA

Dear ..... ,

I am reaching out on behalf of my community of Glacier, Washington, which is 45 minutes east of Bellingham. There are approximately 3000 residents in 756 homes. New homes are added to our area each year. While 45 minutes does not seem a great distance from a large city, living in our area is like stepping back in time due to the lack of broadband and cellular services. We are seeking your help in obtaining services for our area.

Our communities are surrounded by mountains on 3 sides. No fiber carriers offer service in our area. While several satellite services claim to offer broadband in our area, one is not signing up new subscribers and none deliver the service speeds they claim. Our location makes satellite reception inconsistent. In the event that you can subscribe to one of these services, the cost is prohibitively expensive, exceeding \$1200 a year. One DSL carrier in our area did offer speeds of 6 mbps but no longer accepts new subscribers and never did deliver the 6 mbps they advertised. No cellular carrier services our area, thus there are no cell services offering internet. US Mail does not service our communities. We are even told that a carrier is refusing new land lines.

Imagine trying to live your daily life with no cell phone and no high-speed internet and no mail service. Children in our area are at a disadvantage in school, medical devices requiring internet do not work, and common services such as online banking are unavailable to a majority of our residents. It is also a safety issue, with power and telephone outages a regular occurrence. It is becoming increasingly difficult to live without services that most would consider necessary in a modern society.

We understand that significant resources were made available by the government to bring broadband internet to rural communities. We are requesting your help to determine if funds were made available for our communities and to work with the FCC and appropriate officials to bring our communities into the 21st Century by providing broadband and cellular services to our area.

Should you have any question, please feel free to contact me at.....Otherwise, we request a meeting to continue this discussion.

Respectfully,.....