

Always-on broadband, everywhere you go



Summary and notable quotes from the reply comments to the FCC on the M2Z Application

To date, tens of thousands of supporters nationwide including civic leaders, advocacy organizations, state representatives, and members of congress have signed petitions or written letters to the FCC in support of M2Z's application to build a free, fast, and family-friendly broadband service. Here are some of the notable quotes from letters submitted to the FCC:

Members of Congress:

"Many of my Senate colleagues and I are deeply concerned about the growing problem of pornography on the Internet. In addition, I also share the frustration of many of my constituents from Kansas, who are forced to live on the wrong side of the broadband divide - literally unconnected and unable to gain access to the educational and economic development tools available through broadband Internet access. Given these two priorities - a porn-free Internet and a universal broadband service - I am writing to express my support for a proposal that addresses these concerns in an innovative and entrepreneurial manner."

- U.S. Senator Sam Brownback of Kansas in a letter to the FCC dated March 23, 2007

"I believe that the M2Z Networks proposal would help bridge the digital divide in the Latino community and other minority communities. It is certainly in the public interest to offer a free wireless, broadband service to the 114 million adults in the United States who are completely unconnected to the Internet or using a slow dial-up connection."

- Congresswoman Hilda L. Solis, 32nd District of California, in a letter to the FCC dated April 5, 2007

"Additionally, M2Z's commitment to filter indecent material from the free broadband network represents a much needed and long overdue private sector remedy to protect minors from the dangers of accessing pornography and indecent material over the Internet. I know many Utahns would welcome the opportunity to provide their children with the educational and economic opportunity which broadband access can provide without having to become software engineers in order to protect their children."

- U.S. Senator Orrin H. Hatch of Utah in a letter to the FCC dated February 16, 2007

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(Supporting Comments Continued 2/6)

Members of Congress, continued:

"[B]ecause I am committed to exploring different options for providing broadband service to all Americans, regardless of income or ethnicity, I believe M2Z's entry into the marketplace would be an important step forward."

- Congressman Raúl M. Grijalva, 7th District of Arizona, in a letter to the FCC dated August 3, 2007

"I believe that a free, wireless broadband service like M2Z's is the only way to increase both access and adoption among low-income communities. On behalf of the underserved neighborhoods of Chicago and all across the United States, I urge you to act quickly on M2Z's application in order to bring hope and opportunity to the people of this country."

- Congressman Danny Davis, 7th district of Illinois, in a letter to the FCC dated July 30, 2007

"M2Z Networks offers a third distinct model which would clearly benefit consumers by providing their service wirelessly, by filtering offensive content, providing increased competition, and by offering their basic-level service free of charge."

- Congressman Joseph R. Pitts, 16th District of Pennsylvania, in a letter to the FCC dated May 24, 2007

"M2Z looks beyond race, wealth, and status to serve all Americans equally. This service will help all students take full advantage of broadband internet, ensuring that every student can conduct research, complete projects online, and apply to America's best college and universities."

- Congressman Jesse L. Jackson, Jr., 2nd District of Illinois, in a letter to the FCC dated July 23, 2007

"As public servants, we have a duty to help create an environment in this country in which great ideas can flourish, regardless of where they originate, and regardless of the originator's race, income level, or geographic location. Ensuring broadband access for all will allow this to happen, and we must do our part to make that a reality. Our country's future depends on it."

- Congressman Michael M. Honda, 15th District of California, in a letter to the FCC dated February 12, 2007

"I'm committed to enacting policies that promote affordable, universal broadband access for all Americans. I worked closely with Speaker Nancy Pelosi to develop the House Democrats' Innovation Agenda which promises universal broadband in the United States within 5 years, and I believe this should be *the* top priority for the Commission."

- Congresswoman Anna G. Eshoo, 14th District of California, in a letter to the FCC dated February 7, 2007.

"Together, we understand that without full and fair access to broadband deployment, minority communities are being left behind in their ability to compete."

- Congressman Edolphus "Ed" Towns, 10th District of New York, in a letter to the FCC dated January 30, 2007

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Education:

"PTA believes that education is the bedrock of our democracy and we view the M2Z proposal as an innovative and equitable way to ensure that broadband is an educational resource available to all Americans – parents, children and educators."

- Anna Wesalak, PTA National President, in a letter to the FCC dated February 22, 2007

"For our students to learn and compete in the global economy, they must have access to the best information technology. It is imperative for our students to be connected as they move from class to class and from the classroom to the home.

- Gerardo E. de los Santos, President and CEO, League for Innovation in the Community College, in a letter to the FCC dated February 12, 2007

"Affordable broadband access for everyone will be an essential driver of America's educational, economic and social development. As more students gain access to always-on, available-anywhere broadband, their learning opportunities will increase exponentially. But when such access is delayed, the American education community is disadvantaged in the global information arena."

- Brian L. Hawkins, President, EDUCAUSE

Economic Development:

"The citizens of the Bronx need and deserve every opportunity to advance and remain competitive. We are doing our part and believe that M2Z will underscore those efforts. We believe that the citizens of the Bronx and the country would be best served if currently underutilized spectrum is put to work to spur economic development and bridge the digital divide."

- Adolfo Carrion, Jr. Bronx Borough President in a letter to the FCC dated December 15, 2006

"M2Z's proposal represents exactly the sort of innovative, public-private partnership that ought to be encouraged. M2Z's proposal would complement efforts by state and local authorities to expand broadband access and would help the market for broadband access to work more efficiently, by increasing competition and reducing prices."

- Paul Saldana, Chair, California Association for Local Economic Development (CALED) in a letter to the FCC dated February 14, 2007

Public Safety:

"We do believe the [M2Z] proposal could provide a secondary broadband IP network to the public safety community and do so without using any public funds and at a very low cost."

- Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials, International Association of Chiefs of Police, and International Association of Fire Chiefs in a letter to the FCC dated August 30, 2007

"We believe that the best solution to the challenges facing public safety communications is one that includes a system of systems. The M2Z national wireless broadband data network could be one component of that system if the FCC acts swiftly."

- Casey Perry, Chairman, National Troopers Coalition in a letter to the FCC dated October 5, 2006 in support of M2Z

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Civil Rights and the Digital Divide:

"The Rainbow PUSH Coalition supports M2Z Networks, Inc.'s plan to level the playing field for broadband access in the United States and to help connect millions of underserved and underprivileged Americans. Furthermore, M2Z offers a rare opportunities to expand minority ownership in American media and add a new voice to the public discourse."

- Rev. Jesse L. Jackson, Sr., President and Founder, Rainbow PUSH Coalition in a letter to the FCC dated September 7, 2007

"ACORN believes very strongly that the M2Z Networks proposal represent an opportunity for the FCC to reshape and improve the conditions of the broadband marketplace in America. Countless studies and academics have told us that one of the keys to ensuring that more and more Americans will have access to good colleges and even better jobs is to introduce them early to pivotal technologies like computers and web-based applications. This type of access can improve the plight of low- and moderate-income Americans by helping to build financial stability and offering real hope for the future to citizens of some of the most at-risk communities in America."

- Maude Hurd, National President, ACORN in a letter to the FCC dated January 20, 2007

"M2Z Networks offers a legitimate opportunity to shrink the digital divide and provide real opportunities for the Latino community to take advantage of the incredible educational and economic development opportunities available on the Internet and to develop skills and compete for jobs in the information economy."

- Robert de Posada, President, Latino Coalition in a letter to the FCC dated March 2, 2007

Online Child Safety:

"M2Z will offer porn-free wireless access to the internet, and it will provide access to the internet at no charge. This could be a revolutionary product, and, as the docket shows, the reception to the M2Z concept has been overwhelmingly favorable."

- Tony Perkins, President, Family Research Council in a letter to the FCC dated August 22, 2007

"The need for a variety of tools to keep children safe online has never been greater. A study from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention from 2005 reported that from 2004 to 2005 there was an 84% rise in the number of formal complaints that predators had enticed minors online or traveled to meet them in person. Most significantly, the University of New Hampshire reported in 2001 that 1 in 4 children are inadvertently exposed to online pornography every year."

- Marsali S. Hancock, President, Internet Keep Safe Coalition, in a letter to the FCC dated February 29, 2007

"The filter that will be integrated into the free, national broadband data network proposed by M2Z Networks, Inc. is an example of the type of functionality we believe will help families protect themselves from Internet pornography."

- Most Reverend Paul S. Loverde, Bishop of the Catholic Diocese of Arlington, Virginia in a letter to the FCC dated February 26, 2007

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(Supporting Comments Continued 5/6)

State and local representation:

Alaska:

"Furthermore, M2Z Networks' wireless broadband service will allow many more Alaskans to experience the great potential of the broadband Internet first hand by increasing the level of competition in the industry. Greater broadband competition will improve services and reduce the price of broadband for Alaskans, thus, giving more of the people I represent the ability to get connected."

- *Alaska State Senator Lesil McGuire in a letter to the FCC dated March 21, 2007*

Florida:

"In my district of Orlando, Florida many low-income families are caught in the digital divide. They can not afford to pay \$50 a month for internet access when the cost of living continues to increase. As a result, it is more difficult for them to research and apply for jobs, assist their children with schoolwork and become informed about community services and their local and state government.

- *State Representative Geraldine F. Thompson, District 39-Orlando, in a letter to the FCC dated May 10, 2007*

Hawaii:

"Expanding citizen access to the benefits and opportunity of the internet holds tremendous promise. The educational and economic development potential is significant and communities that adopt policies of easy, low cost and efficient internet access hold a strong advantage over communities that lag behind in this area."

- *Hawaii Senate Majority Leader Gary L. Hooser in a letter to the FCC dated May 22, 2007*

Illinois:

"We support efforts to provide free, nationwide, wireless broadband access that will help bridge the digital divide that separates many Americans, help all Americans compete for jobs in the information economy, ensure a prosperous future for our children and make us global leader in providing our citizenry access to the Internet and all its benefits."

- *State Senators William Haine, Lou Viverito, Ira Silverstein, Michael Bond, Kwame Raoul, and Mike Noland, and State Representatives Karen Yarbrough and Kevin Joyce in a letter to the FCC dated June 28, 2007*

Maryland:

"Traffic is horrendous, as you might expect, so I have made it a top priority to improve infrastructure and decrease traffic. One of the many benefits to M2Z Networks' plan is the option to telecommute. The City would be happy to support free internet access which would allow parents and children to spend quality time together and that would reduce the traffic flow."

- *Mayor William Holtzinger, Frederick, Maryland in a letter to the FCC dated May 30, 2007*

Massachusetts:

"This is a great idea and potentially wonderful opportunity for everyone. Their free internet service would help supplement existing online projects by providing free backhaul...Please consider the municipalities of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the great benefits that our constituents will derive from this free internet access."

- *Senator Robert S. Creedon, 2nd Plymouth and Bristol District, Massachusetts in a letter to the FCC dated March 15, 2007*

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State and local representation:

Mississippi:

"The FCC now has the opportunity to approve the proposal of M2Z Networks that would allow fast, free, family-friendly broadband service throughout the nation. With this plan parents can become more involved with their student's education, teachers can expand their resources, and most of all new opportunities will be afforded to our children...our future."

- *Mississippi State Senator Dean Kirby in a letter to the FCC dated March 29, 2007*

Nevada:

"Equally important will be access to broadband and that is why the Boulder City Chamber writes to you today to ask for your favorable consideration of an application that was submitted by M2Z for the purpose of establishing a free nationwide broadband internet system. Even where broadband is available many families in Nevada simply can not afford it and in our vast rural areas it is simply not present."

- *Chairman Robert Sears, Boulder City Chamber of Commerce, Nevada in a letter to the FCC dated March 22, 2007*

North Carolina:

"Right now, access to broadband internet service is not available to everyone some because they cannot afford it and others because they live in rural areas...I would like to see everyone, regardless of their economic status or location have the chance to learn, work and play on-line. I support the M2Z Networks proposal to provide safe, free broadband and I ask the FCC to do the same."

- *Mayor B.R. "Ruff" Huggins, Mount Olive, North Carolina in a letter to the FCC dated March 8, 2007*

Tennessee:

"This initiative offered by M2Z Networks would allow thousands of children a reliable connection to use for academic purposes. The days of going to the library and manually researching are nearly obsolete. It is hardly fair that only those from higher income families are granted the right to use the online research methods, which in many cases are better than what you would find in a library."

- *Tennessee State Representative David Hawk in a letter to the FCC dated February 28, 2007*

Texas:

"I would hope the Commission will move forward in scheduling a hearing on the M2Z Networks proposal to begin the discussion we need to have in this county on how to establish a nationwide broadband policy. The M2Z proposal has many points worthy of consideration, particularly its focus on providing fast, free, easy access to the Internet for all Americans."

- *Joe Wells, County Treasurer, Dallas County in a letter to the FCC dated May 21, 2007*

West Virginia:

"M2Z Networks has a plan to provide free, fast broadband internet to everyone, and I believe the plan should be able to go forward. With a modem, anyone would be able to go on-line at a faster speed and use the internet to work or play. Currently, only 40% of students in households that make less than \$20,000 use the internet. This plan would give those children a better opportunity to experience the benefits of the internet."

- *West Virginia State Delegate Kelli Sobonya in a letter to the FCC dated April 4, 2007*