



NORFOLK

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January 24, 2017

To the Honorable Council
City of Norfolk, Virginia

R-9

Re: Resolution Opposing House Bill No. 2108 entitled
Virginia Broadband Development Act

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen:

This agenda item is in opposition to House Bill No. 2018 and requests the General Assembly to reject this bill and any companion bill limiting or impeding a locality's ability to utilize and manage its communications infrastructure.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bernard A. Pishko".

Bernard A. Pishko
City Attorney

Recommendation: Adopt Resolution

1/18/17 MPM:sb

Form and Correctness Approval:

TAP

Contents Approved:

By Martha P. McBurne
Office of the City Attorney

By Stan DeBery
DEPT.

NORFOLK, VIRGINIA

Resolution

A RESOLUTION OPPOSING HOUSE BILL NO. 2108 AND REQUESTING THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO REJECT THIS AND ANY COMPANION BILL LIMITING OR IMPEDING A LOCALITY'S ABILITY TO UTILIZE AND MANAGE ITS COMMUNICATIONS INFRASTRUCTURE.

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WHEREAS, on January 11, 2017 House Bill No. 2108 ("HB2108") was introduced to the Virginia General Assembly as the Virginia Broadband Deployment Act (the "Act");

WHEREAS, enhancing connectivity is a means of encouraging economic development and diversification of business in the City, the region and the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, passage of the Act would greatly hinder the City's efforts to encourage economic development and facilitate technological connectivity throughout the City, the region, and the Commonwealth by precluding the City from expanding its communications infrastructure or leasing infrastructure it owns with any non-governmental entity to provide efficient and cost-effective connectivity; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Norfolk recognizes the importance of each locality's ability to manage its own communications infrastructure in order to foster technological advancement and economic development; and

WHEREAS, passage of HB2108 would take away each locality's authority to hinder its ability to utilize and manage such infrastructure in furtherance of achieving timely and affordable access to broadband and technological infrastructure, and should be rejected; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Norfolk:

Section 1:- That the City Council opposes HB2108, and the Virginia General Assembly is hereby requested to reject HB2108 and any companion bill limiting or impeding localities' ability to utilize and manage their communications infrastructure.

Section 2:- That this Resolution shall be in effect from and after its adoption.