



Real People. Real Possibilities:

Don Schonhardt
Mayor

Senator Bill Beagle, Chair
Senate Public Utilities Committee
1 Capitol Square, 2nd Floor
Columbus, OH 43215

March 13, 2018

Dear Chairman Beagle,

On behalf of the City of Hilliard, I am writing to encourage your support of House Bill 478, the small cell infrastructure legislation.

This legislation represents a collaborative effort of more than 90 Ohio municipalities throughout the state and the telecom industry to replace an amendment in Senate Bill 331, which was passed by the Ohio Legislature in December 2016.

As you know, House Bill 478 received overwhelming support in the House. Not only, does this advance much-needed wireless technology across the State of Ohio, it also has the support of the municipal governments, which have jurisdiction over the rights-of-way.

The new bill also assures a predictable process for wireless providers. As sponsors, State Representatives Ryan Smith and Sarah LaTourette noted, the legislation provides:

- Uniform fees to attach to municipal-owned poles and a uniform process for obtaining permits;
- Tools for local governments to retain control regarding location, construction and design for small cells; and
- Competitive rules that apply to both cable operators and wireless service providers for the operation of small-cell facilities.

It is in the best interest of the State of Ohio to promote the rapid deployment of new technologies and innovative services to improve the quality of life and competitiveness of our residents and our businesses.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if I can provide additional information.

Sincerely,

Donald J. Schonhardt
Mayor, City of Hilliard, Ohio