

RESOLUTION NUMBER 35 SERIES OF 2018

**SUPPORTING PASSAGE OF FREMONT COUNTY BALLOT ISSUE 1A,
CAÑON CITY BALLOT ISSUE 2B AND FLORENCE BALLOT ISSUE 2C,
RETURNING LOCAL CONTROL TO THE COUNTY AND CITIES AND AUTHORIZING
THESE GOVERNMENTS TO PROVIDE HIGH SPEED INTERNET SERVICES,
TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES, AND/OR CABLE TELEVISION IN
ACCORDANCE WITH AND AS PERMITTED BY §§ 29-27-101 TO 304, C.R.S.**

WHEREAS, in 2005 the general assembly of the State of Colorado removed the right of local government to engage in providing internet and telecommunications services and, limited the ability of counties and municipalities from improving local broadband capabilities; and

WHEREAS, Ballot Issues 1A, 2B (Cañon City), and 2C (Florence) would allow the people of the County of Fremont to return control of this important technology issue back to local governments; and

WHEREAS, these Ballot Issues, if approved, will allow Fremont County and municipalities in the county to establish business partnerships with private companies to increase access to high-speed broadband Internet; and

WHEREAS, citizens in at least 28 Colorado counties and more than 70 Colorado municipalities already have approved similar ballot questions for their local governments; and

WHEREAS, Ballot Issues 1A, 2B and 2C, will not prevent any private business, including existing broadband providers, from initiating or continuing to provide these services; and

WHEREAS, passage of this measure will allow and present a variety of opportunities for Fremont County, in partnership directly or indirectly with public or private sector partners or providers, to make efforts to improve coverage and availability of such services and to access grant funding to offset and defray the cost for delivery of such services; and to make assets available to serve the broadband needs of residents, businesses, and students alike; and

WHEREAS, voter approval of 1A, 2B and 2C could lead to better access to high-speed broadband; intensified innovation by local businesses and entrepreneurs; affordable Internet access; a more connected community; and improved quality of life; and

WHEREAS, 1A, 2B and 2C, expressly do not allow increases in taxes nor the expenditure of any taxpayer funds.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS FOR FREMONT COUNTY, COLORADO, THAT:

Section 1. The above recitals are hereby incorporated as findings by the Board of County Commissioners for Fremont County, Colorado.

Section 2. The Board of Commissioners for Fremont County SUPPORT Ballot Issues 1A, 2B and 2C, which will return local control to the county and cities and authorize these governments to provide high speed internet services, telecommunications services, and/or cable television, and finds the same to be in the best interests of the citizens and residents of the County.

Commissioner Bell moved for adoption of this Resolution, with a second by Commissioner McFall. The roll call vote of the Board was as follows:

| | | | | |
|------------------|------------|-----|---------|--------|
| Debbie Bell | <u>AYE</u> | NAY | ABSTAIN | ABSENT |
| Dwayne McFall | <u>AYE</u> | NAY | ABSTAIN | ABSENT |
| Timothy R. Payne | <u>AYE</u> | NAY | ABSTAIN | ABSENT |

The Resolution was declared to be duly adopted.

Date: 10/9/18

T. Payne
Chairman

Attest: R. Garduno
Clerk
Chief Deputy