



# NATIONAL DIVERSITY COALITION

## National Diversity Coalition

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Santa Maria Group

Small Business Development

Corp of Orange County

Southern California CDC

The Network of Myanmar

(Burmese)

American Association

Vasquez & Company, LLP

Youth Business USA

## The Honorable Frank Pallone, Jr.

Chairman

U.S. House Energy and Commerce Committee

2125 Rayburn House Office Building

Washington, DC 20515

## The Honorable Greg Walden

Ranking Member

U.S. House Energy and Commerce Committee

2322A Rayburn House Office Building

Washington, DC 20515

## The Honorable Michael Doyle

Chairman

U.S. House Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Communications and Technology

2125 Rayburn House Office Building

Washington, DC 20515

## The Honorable Bob Latta

Ranking Member

U.S. House Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Communications and Technology

2322A Rayburn House Office Building

Washington, DC 20515

RE: NDC Support for T-Mobile Sprint Transaction

Dear Chairman Pallone, Ranking Member Walden, Subcommittee Chairman Doyle and Ranking Member Latta:

The National Diversity Coalition (“NDC”) and its more than thirty (30) member organizations encourage the Federal Communications Commission (“FCC”) to authorize the merger of Sprint and T-Mobile (“New T-Mobile”). We believe the proposed transaction will deliver better-quality mobile broadband service, help to bridge the digital divide, and create new opportunities for the low-income and minority communities we represent throughout the country.

NDC includes many of our nation’s leading African American, Asian, and Latino advocacy and civic organizations, as well as major minority and women-oriented national non-profits and faith-based organizations, who have worked tirelessly to advocate for greater economic opportunity, empowerment, and equality for low-and-moderate income and minority communities.

Our work has allowed us to provide a voice to “voiceless communities” before governmental bodies such as the FCC and the California Public Utilities Commission, while also exploring strategic partnerships with corporations to advance our communities’ goals, such as improving digital and broadband literacy, increasing access to affordable healthcare, and expanding corporate supplier diversity programs.

NDC recognizes that it cannot achieve substantial social impact without corporate partners. Therefore, we believe that aside from calling out companies that exhibit negative business practices, it is equally important to support companies that have a strong record of social responsibility – such as New T-Mobile.

For instance, New T-Mobile has demonstrated its commitment to diversity and inclusion, including supporting minority-owned businesses, which is outlined in the recent Memorandum of Understanding 15 Southgate Avenue, Suite 200, Daly City, California 94015 | Phone (650) 952-0522 | nationaldiversitycoalition.org

(MOU) between the NDC and T-Mobile.<sup>1</sup> If the merger is approved, the memorandum commits the combined company to two important, complementary goals: (1) raising its diverse spending targets, and (2) establishing an advisory body that will ensure diverse voices have a direct line of communication to corporate leadership as they develop and implement strategic plans greater equality and opportunity in the business.<sup>2</sup> In our view, the MOU embodies New T-Mobile’s commitment to maintaining Sprint’s and T-Mobile’s strong track record of supporting business opportunities for minority groups and offers a promising sign for the future.

Our diverse communities will also benefit from New T-Mobile’s improved network and expanded service offerings. We understand for example that the New T-Mobile network will have three times the amount of 5G capacity versus the two standalone companies put together in 2024.<sup>3</sup> The combined network will cover over 200 million people with service capable of average speeds of 500 Mbps or faster in the same year – compared to neither company covering a single person with similar network throughput by that time.<sup>4</sup> Widespread deployment of next-generation services will help ensure all Americans—including minorities—share in the socioeconomic benefits of the digital revolution, such as new job creation, telehealth applications and distance learning opportunities, just to name a few. New T-Mobile also intends to offer in-home fixed wireless broadband service using its increased network capacity.<sup>5</sup> New T-Mobile’s plan to aggressively compete on price to win new fixed broadband customers will lead to greater adoption of this service by communities that have traditionally been unable to afford it.

Indeed, the merger of T-Mobile and Sprint will help to bridge the digital divide for Americans who have fallen behind in broadband access and adoption and increase opportunities for diverse communities. For these reasons, the proposed merger will promote the public interest and deserves the FCC’s swift approval.

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<sup>1</sup> See Press Release, National Diversity Coalition, NDC and T-Mobile Sign Momentous MOU (Jan. 31, 2019), <https://bit.ly/2DQIJo7> (last accessed Feb. 6, 2019).

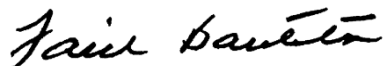
<sup>2</sup> *Id.*

<sup>3</sup> See *Description of Transaction, Public Interest Statement, and Related Demonstrations*, Applications of T-Mobile US, Inc. and Sprint Corp. for Consent to Transfer Control of Licenses and Authorizations, WT Docket No. 18-197 at 101 (filed June 18, 2018) (“Public Interest Statement”).

<sup>4</sup> *Id.* at 27.

<sup>5</sup> See *id.* at 58-64.

Sincerely,



Faith Bautista  
*Chief Executive Officer*  
National Diversity Coalition  
*President & Chief Executive Officer*  
National Asian American Coalition



Jin Sung  
*Board Chair*  
National Diversity Coalition  
*Founder & Executive Director*  
Oasis Center International



Richard Ramos  
*Board Vice-Chair and Secretary*  
National Diversity Coalition  
*Founder, President-CEO*  
Latino Coalition for Community Leadership



Gilbert Vazquez  
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*Managing Partner*  
Vasquez & Company, LLP



Rev. Everett Bell  
*Board Director*  
National Diversity Coalition  
*Founder & Executive Director*  
Impact Southern California CDC



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*Board Director*  
National Diversity Coalition  
*Executive Director*  
Macedonia CDC



Rev. Dr. Charles Dorsey  
*Board Director*  
National Diversity Coalition  
*Founder*  
The Dorsey Group LLC CA



Jack Miranda  
*Board Director*  
National Diversity Coalition  
*Program Director*  
Jesse Miranda Center for Hispanic Leadership



Cora Oriol  
*Board Director*  
National Diversity Coalition  
*President*  
Asian Journal Publications, Inc.



Martha Montoya  
*Board Director*  
National Diversity Coalition  
*Publisher*  
El Mundo

*Theresa Martinez*

Theresa Martinez  
Board Director  
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Community Connections, LLC

*Norma Gomez*

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Executive Director  
Los Angeles Latino Chamber of Commerce

*Regeanie Corona*

Regeanie Corona  
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*Gerry Palon*

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*George Enriquez*

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*Giancarlo Pacheco*

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*Silverio Robledo*

Silverio Robledo  
President  
Southern California CDC

*Aung Naing*

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*Bo Ghirardelli*

Bo Ghirardelli  
CEO  
Youth Business USA

*Mina Hong*

Mina Hong  
Chief Financial Officer  
Abacus Capital, Inc. (Island Pacific Supermarket)

*Mary Hewitt*

Mary Hewitt  
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Los Angeles County Alliance for Boys & Girls Clubs