

September 19, 2019

Tillamook County Planning Commission
c/o Sarah Absher, Planning Director
2211 3rd Street, Suite A
Tillamook, OR 97141

Re: Applicant's Additional Evidence regarding Health, Safety and Welfare

Dear Commissioners:

I am writing on behalf of the applicant Edge Cable Holdings USA, LLC (an indirect wholly owned subsidiary of Facebook, Inc.) to provide the Planning Commission with additional evidence demonstrating that the proposed submarine fiber-optic transmission line and associated manhole vault is a type of privately owned public facility and service, that is necessary for the health, safety and welfare of the public. (See Comprehensive Plan at 11-7 and 11-35.)

Introduction

As the Planning Commission is aware, Facebook is a global communication company and social media platform. Facebook is the largest social media platform in the United States. Globally, Facebook has over 2.20 billion monthly active users. (See Exhibit 1.)

As a global communication company, Facebook's Jupiter cable project, including the proposed submarine fiber-optic transmission line and associated manhole on TL 3200, is part of the nation's critical infrastructure. (See Exhibit 2.) Pursuant to the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency Act of 2018:

“Critical infrastructure describes the physical and cyber systems and assets that are so vital to the United States that their incapacity or destruction would have a debilitating impact on our physical or economic security or public health and safety.” (See Exhibit 3.)

Health

In terms of public health, telemedicine has become a critically important health care service that has transformed the practice of medicine and the delivery of health care in hospitals,

homes, physician's offices and other healthcare facilities in Tillamook County and throughout the world. (See Exhibit 4). Telemedicine is particularly important in rural communities like Tillamook County, where Facebook supports a variety of health care service providers and their patients, as it does throughout the world. (See Exhibits 5 and 6).

Safety

As a global communication company and social media platform, Facebook's technology is regularly used by public safety agencies and other groups such as the National Weather Service, the U.S. NWS Pacific Tsunami Warning Center (See Exhibit 7), the National Tsunami Warning Center (see Exhibit 8), the Alaska Earthquake Tsunami Warning Center (see Exhibit 9), and the Hurricane Dorian Safety Check-in Center (See Exhibit 10), to issue warnings and connect with communities during natural emergencies.

In that regard, it is important to recognize that Facebook's voice, messaging and social media services are free. These free services, along with its worldwide infrastructure, enables public agencies, groups, and individuals to share critically important information at a moment's notice. In terms of public safety, Facebook's technology saves lives and enhances connections between people, businesses and agencies, both on a regular basis and during emergencies.

At the local level, fire departments and police departments in Tillamook County regularly rely on Facebook to communicate with the public in both non-emergency and emergency situations. For example, see:

1. Fire Departments in Tillamook County:

- a. https://www.facebook.com/GearhartFire/?ref=br_rs
- b. https://www.facebook.com/Bay-City-Fire-Department-1633323323633152/?ref=search&_tn=%2Cd%2CP-R&eid=ARBMiVMLq2QDo_dQ28CO5jMaxM3BSw-hjU94lo46HceOQSZbhpEkCasa-IBuTYS9LM0x0Oc8eoObPIWB

2. Police Departments in Tillamook County:

- a. https://www.facebook.com/tillamookcountysheriff/?ref=search&_tn=%2Cd%2CP-R&eid=ARAsWJV6eIwT37AUXEILSrQjX2pW3mTnkRWfqe2oPvNksgbhyGDmiU-R0bGz5TJ32UcqKDZwLxs6PhCG
- b. https://www.facebook.com/OSPsocial/?ref=br_rs
https://www.facebook.com/tillamookpolicedepartment/?ref=br_rs

Welfare

Facebook's mission is to give people the power to build communities and bring the world closer together. As noted earlier, Facebook and its worldwide infrastructure have provided connections between governments, businesses, communities and individuals on a global scale. Closer to home, a variety of public service agencies in Tillamook County rely on Facebook to connect with the local communities they serve. In short, Facebook and other social media platforms, along with their critically important infrastructure, are necessary communication tools for the health, safety and welfare of community at the local, national and global level. With regard to general welfare, the following Tillamook County agencies rely on Facebook to connect with their constituents and share needed public information:

- a. https://www.facebook.com/Tillamook-County-Solid-Waste-Public-Works-469663463128676/?ref=search&_tn=%2Cd%2CP-R&eid=ARC_qfJ6q0TQdkPLRPWgAwJfRvokRWpjOvYznpAB16SnwEVxc2FgjQl-vC8D_Hf1U85e-4P4fec9xcvV
- b. https://www.facebook.com/TillamookCountyParksDepartment/?ref=search&_tn=%2Cd%2CP-R&eid=ARAZBQIRKhIWYr7e5DQOPzO-a2vtZ53mtnXXFO54UGTKgmf-MkUFuM_IRHd3vIZ8udVVxt_F6NOYvG56
- c. https://www.facebook.com/TillamookCountyLibrary/?ref=br_rs
- d. https://www.facebook.com/Tillamook-County-Roads-Public-Works-338910082905955/?ref=br_rs
- e. <https://www.facebook.com/TillamookCHC/>
- f. https://www.facebook.com/tillamookforestcenteroregon/?ref=br_rs
- g. https://www.facebook.com/Tillamook-School-District-9-459770067410513/?ref=br_rs
- h. https://www.facebook.com/Tillamook-County-Housing-Commission-2231494210511679/?ref=br_rs
- i. https://www.facebook.com/Mid-Tillamook-County-Parks-Rec-District-641476052962734/?ref=br_rs

I would also highlight the testimony of others who have spoken on behalf of this project, such as Mr. Roger Lee, CEO for Economic Development of Central Oregon (EDCO), who testified regarding the issue of community economic development. As Mr. Lee points out:

“... the ability for this global high speed, high reliability infrastructure being concentrated in Oregon gives our communities across the state a potential competitive advantage to capitalize on new technologies, industries and jobs for the future. Those with it have the opportunity to prosper, while those without it, run the risk of being left behind.

The route for this important infrastructure, starting in Tillamook County, will potentially impact dozens of rural communities, including Prineville, Madras, Warm Springs, and La Pine in our tri-county area alone. On the other hand, if it is not built, the viability of future expansions of our data center cluster and other technology sectors in our region and state will be diminished.

Clearly, this conditional use permit has important economic implications far beyond the borders of Tillamook County. Not being a resident, I am unaware of the local concerns with this CUP application, however I believe you will find other undersea fiber cable landings in Oregon have very little visual, environmental or commercial activity impacts where ever they are located.”

(See September 5, 2019 letter to Tillamook County Planning Commission from Roger Lee, CEO, EDCO.)

Conclusion

In conclusion, the need for the critical infrastructure proposed by Facebook on TL 3200 directly implements the social equity policies of ORS 759.016(1) which provide that:

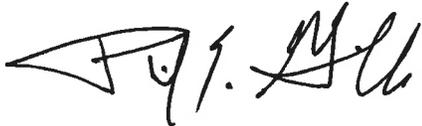
“... it is the goal of this state to promote broadband services for all, to improve the economy, improve the quality of life in communities and reduce the economic gap between Oregon communities that have access to broadband digital applications and services and those that do not...” (See ORS 759.016(1))

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For all of the above reasons, the Edge Cable Holdings USA, LLC fiber-optic cable transmission line and related manhole vault proposed on TL 3200, constitutes critical infrastructure that is necessary for the health, safety and welfare of the public.

Sincerely,

Davis Wright Tremaine LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "P. E. Grillo". The signature is stylized and written in a cursive-like font.

Phillip E. Grillo

Enclosure

cc: Client