



Department
of Public Service

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www.dps.ny.gov

Public Service Commission
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Commissioners

March 18, 2024

Dear Community Leader/Elected Official:

On April 16, 2021, New York enacted the Comprehensive Broadband Connectivity Act of 2021, which directed the Public Service Commission (Commission) to prepare an annual study of the availability, reliability, and cost of high-speed broadband service in New York State. On June 16, 2022, the Commission released its first interactive broadband map and report. The Commission released its second report on June 29, 2023.

In preparation for the 2024 map and report, the Commission invites public comment regarding the availability, affordability, and adoption of residential and commercial broadband internet access across New York State. The purpose of the report is to ensure that all New Yorkers have the necessary access to affordable broadband service.

Topics for public comment include but are not limited to:

- Locations where broadband service with at least 25 megabits per second (Mbps) downstream and 1 Mbps upstream is not available as well as identification of barriers that limit broadband availability;
- Locations where the offered download speed is greater than 25 Mbps but less than 100 Mbps downstream;
- Locations where there is only one broadband internet service provider; and
- Locations where broadband internet service is too costly for some consumers or businesses, and the size of the cost barriers.

To ensure full public participation, the Commission will hold virtual public statement hearings on **March 27, 2024** to solicit input and comments from your community regarding the annual study. The enclosed announcement provides detailed information on how to participate in the hearings and how to submit comments. Information regarding the case, including instructions for digitally submitting a comment, can be found at www.dps.ny.gov. From the homepage, click on "Search," and enter the associated case number (22-M-0313) in the "Search by Case Number" field. For information about the study and survey, visit <https://mapmybroadband.dps.ny.gov>.

I would appreciate your assistance with informing your constituents about the public statement hearings and encouraging them to provide comments. It is the Commission's intent to facilitate and encourage active and meaningful participation throughout all its proceedings. We hope you will consider joining us.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Richard Berkley".

Richard Berkley
Consumer Advocate and Director
Office of Consumer Services

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