



**OFFICE OF THE MAYOR**  
Hon. Stephanie A. Miner, Mayor

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
DATE: July 20, 2015

CONTACT: Alexander Marion  
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**MINER ANNOUNCES PSC WILL HOLD HEARING IN  
SYRACUSE ABOUT TELECOM ASSESSMENT**

*Hearing Will Be Held on August 6 at City Hall with an Information Session  
Beginning at 6 P.M. and Public Testimony Starting at 7*

*Miner: I Welcome Syracusans to Testify About Experiences with Telecom  
Providers*

SYRACUSE, N.Y. – Mayor Stephanie A. Miner announced today the New York State Public Service Commission (PSC) said it would hold a public statement hearing soliciting comment on its [telecommunications assessment](#). After learning that hearings had been scheduled in communities outside Central New York, Mayor Miner had written to the PSC earlier this month on July 9 encouraging the state agency to hold a public hearing in the City of Syracuse.

“I thank the PSC for taking the time to come to the City of Syracuse to listen to our residents and business owners. I appreciate their willingness to engage in a productive dialogue about these issues with Central New Yorkers,” said **Syracuse Mayor Stephanie A. Miner**. “This is an important opportunity for the people of Syracuse to have their voices heard before state regulators on this important issue and I welcome members of the public who wish to come and testify about their experiences with telecommunications companies.”

The hearing will be held at Syracuse City Hall on Thursday, August 6 in the Common Council Chambers. An informational presentation from PSC staff will be held beginning at 6:00 p.m. with public testimony beginning at 7:00 p.m.

**Mayor Miner** added: “In Syracuse, there is virtually no competition for internet services and Verizon has refused to build out a fiber optic network in the City. Without choice and competition, companies can be enriched while consumers pay the price.”

In April, 2014, the PSC stated that it would perform a comprehensive review of the state of the telecommunications industry in New York which would be completed in one year. In July of



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2014, the Connect New York coalition filed a petition with the PSC seeking a formal proceeding to perform an assessment of the telecommunications industry.

In June, 2015 the PSC released a “staff assessment” of the telecommunications industry in New York State. At the request of Mayor Miner and other members of the Connect New York coalition, additional hearings were scheduled throughout New York State giving the public an opportunity to comment on the assessment.

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