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1 Commission the position of the City of Deltona and myself personally, 2 and how I feel that it will effect my constituents.

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A.

Should the Commission approve the industry's consensus relief Plan? Not having a complete copy of the industry's consensus relief Plan, I am commenting only on my understanding of that Plan. It is my understanding that they are requesting an overlay of the 904 area code area in Volusia County. It is my opinion, and the City's opinion that an additional area code in Volusia County, a County that already has two (2) area codes, and a portion of it which is in an overlay status in the 407/321 area code, would be unacceptable and not in the public interest. An additional overlay would bring as many as four (4) area codes within our County, and with the knowledge and understanding that the 321/407 overlay's lifetime is only 3-4 years, this could mean that Volusia County, in five years, could ultimately have five (5) area codes. For a County as small as Volusia County, with a population base as small as that of Volusia County, this would constitute more area codes than any major metropolitan population area, that I know of, anywhere in the United States.

Q. What number conservation measure(s), if any, should be implemented?
A. It is our belief that to help conserve numbers, the Public Service Commission needs to direct that smaller blocks of numbers be allowed to be reserved than the present ten thousand phone numbers that companies and businesses presently reserve at this time. It is also our feeling that numbers should be released in numeric order, and not be allowed to skip large blocks of numbers in the issuing and releasing of

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Q. What should be the dialing pattern for Volusia County?

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It is our feeling that there should be extended community calling throughout Volusia County, even across the Orlando lata-line which is at the northern-most region of the City of Deltona. Presently, Deltona is split on an area code line, and then north of that area code line is a lata line. We feel that because of the large number of residents that work inside of the Daytona lata, and live inside of the Orlando lata, all of which is inside of one City, the City of Deltona, and within Volusia County, that measures need to be taken so that people can call across this lata line, and call anywhere within the County border, at either a flat .25 cent rate, or at a local rate. It is also our feeling that the local calling that southwest Volusia presently has, crossing the county line into Sanford and Lake Mary, needs to be continued. It is also our feeling that southeastern Deltona, which presently has Sanford exchange phone numbers, should continue with their local calling area, which allows them to call as far south as Orlando. We would like to see their local calling area expanded to include northern Deltona, which is in the 904 area code, and still within the Orlando lata. These areas border each other and, in some instances, are across the street from each other. I do not feel that it is correct that one area of the City must pay long distance phone charges to call across the street. It has been the opinion of the City that we would like to see all of Volusia County united into a single area code to make it simpler for calling patterns, and to make it simpler for people to recognize area code numbers within Volusia County, instead of having, ultimately in five years, as many as five area codes in Volusia County.

Q. Please explain any rate structure changes that may be appropriate.

A. The City feels that a rate structure change is needed between calling of northern Deltona, which is in the 904 area code, yet still within the Orlando lata- that a rate structure change needs to be made for them to be able to make extended community calling to Daytona Beach, and from Daytona Beach back to both northern Deltona, southern Deltona, and eastern Deltona.

Q. What is the appropriate implementation Schedules?

A.

The City of Deltona would like to see an implementation schedule where any and all changes within the areas of 407, 904 and the rest of Volusia County are implemented all at the same time, instead of having a portion of Deltona brought into the 904, and then that area code changed to a new area code. We feel that this would cause undue distress for our constituents and businesses if their area code changes twice. So, we would like to see the implementation of any changes to be done at one single time in the future. The exact date of such implementation, we feel, needs to be left up to the industry, since they are the ones who need to

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Q. Do you have anything further to add regarding this matter?

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A.

The City of Deltona, and myself personally, feel that a change within Volusia County to a single area code is not only good for the residents of Deltona to make calling within our City, and from other areas into our City, much simpler and more convenient, but it is also in the best interest of the tourism industry throughout Volusia County. Presently Volusia County has a emerging echo tourism within the west Volusia area, and of course we have a beach tourism area, and racing tourism area in the Daytona Beach area. We feel that the overlay of an area code, and ultimately in five years having as may as five area codes in Volusia County, will have an adverse economic impact upon all of the residents in Volusia County, as tourism would suffer caused by people not being able to know what numbers to call to make reservations or to be able to learn about what tourist-type activities are available throughout the County. This decrease in tourism would have a "trickle-down" effect upon any and all other industries within Volusia County.

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# **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a true and correct copy of the foregoing has been furnished by U.S. Mail to all parties on the attached service list, this \_/5<sup>11</sup>, day of November, 1999.

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A:(KRISTYDISK1)CJB\DELTONA\DOCUMENT\AREACODE.PET(November 11, 1999)