The FCC's 5G FAST Plan

Under Chairman Pai, the FCC is pursuing a comprehensive strategy to Facilitate America's Superiority in 5G Technology (the 5G FAST Plan). The Chairman's strategy includes three key components: (1) pushing more spectrum into the marketplace; (2) updating infrastructure policy; and (3) modernizing outdated regulations.

Spectrum

The FCC is taking action to make additional spectrum available for 5G services.

- *High-band*: The FCC has made auctioning high-band, millimeter-wave spectrum a priority. The FCC will hold its first 5G spectrum auctions this year in the <u>28 GHz and 24 GHz</u> bands. In 2019, the FCC will auction the upper <u>37 GHz</u>, <u>39 GHz</u>, <u>and 47 GHz</u> bands. With these auctions, the FCC will release almost 5 gigahertz of 5G spectrum into the market—more than all other flexible use bands combined. And we are working to free up another 2.75 gigahertz of 5G spectrum in the <u>26 and 42 GHz</u> bands.
- *Mid-band*: Mid-band spectrum has become a target for 5G buildout given its balanced coverage and capacity characteristics. With our work on the <u>2.5 GHz</u>, <u>3.5 GHz</u>, and <u>3.7-4.2 GHz</u> bands, we could make up to 844 megahertz available for 5G deployments.
- *Low-band*: The FCC is acting to improve use of low-band spectrum (useful for wider coverage) for 5G services, with targeted changes to the <u>600 MHz</u>, <u>800 MHz</u>, and <u>900 MHz</u> bands.
- *Unlicensed*: Recognizing that unlicensed spectrum will be important for 5G, the agency is creating new opportunities for the next generation of Wi-Fi in the <u>6 GHz</u> and <u>above 95 GHz</u> band.

Infrastructure Policy

The FCC is updating infrastructure policy and encouraging the private sector to invest in 5G networks.

- <u>Speeding Up Federal Review of Small Cells</u>: The FCC adopted new rules that will reduce federal regulatory impediments to deploying the small-cell infrastructure needed for 5G (as opposed to large cell towers) and help to expand the reach of 5G for faster, more reliable wireless service.
- <u>Speeding Up State and Local Review of Small Cells</u>: The FCC has reformed rules designed decades ago to accommodate small cells. The reforms ban short-sighted municipal roadblocks that have the effect of prohibiting deployment of 5G and give states and localities a reasonable deadline to approve or disapprove small-cell siting applications.

Modernizing Outdated Regulations

The FCC is modernizing outdated regulations to promote 5G backhaul and digital opportunity for all Americans.

- <u>Restoring Internet Freedom</u>: To lead the world in 5G, the United States needs to encourage investment and innovation while protecting Internet openness and freedom. The FCC adopted the *Restoring Internet Freedom Order*, which sets a consistent national policy for Internet providers.
- <u>One-Touch Make-Ready</u>: The FCC has updated its rules governing the attachment of new network equipment to utility poles in order to reduce cost and speed up the process for 5G backhaul deployment.
- <u>Speeding the IP Transition</u>: The FCC has revised its rules to make it easier for companies to invest in next-generation networks and services instead of the fading networks of the past.
- <u>Business Data Services</u>: In order to incentivize investment in modern fiber networks, the FCC updated rules for high-speed, dedicated services by lifting rate regulation where appropriate.
- <u>Supply Chain Integrity</u>: The FCC has proposed to prevent taxpayer dollars from being used to purchase equipment or services from companies that pose a national security threat to the integrity of American communications networks or the communications supply chain.