

WHAT THEY'RE SAYING ABOUT CHAIRMAN PAI'S PROPOSAL TO PROMOTE INNOVATION IN THE 5.9 GHz BAND

Diverse Array of Government Officials, Think Tanks, Consumer Groups, and Industry Support Unlicensed and C-V2X in 5.9 GHz Band

Government

Senator Ron Johnson (WI): “5.9 GHz has potential to provide valuable #unlicensedspectrum—we need both licensed & unlicensed to win the race to #5G. Striking right balance between protecting incumbents & freeing up unlicensed spectrum is crucial, & I’m glad to see @AjitPaiFCC working hard to do just that.” ([Tweet](#), 11/20/19)

House Energy and Commerce Committee Vice Chair Yvette Clarke (NY): “I’m proud to see that the FCC will explore the potential WiFi capabilities for this band to provide stronger broadband capabilities to our communities.” ([Tweet](#), 11/20/19)

Rep. G.K. Butterfield (NC): “Increased #WiFi capacity is a great benefit to underserved communities across the nation. Glad to see the @FCC taking a fresh look in addressing this issue.” ([Tweet](#), 11/20/19)

Rep. Doris Matsui (CA): “What a week! I applaud @AjitPaiFCC for announcing a plan to make the 5.9 GHz band available (on top of a public auction for the C-Band!). I have long called for action on the 5.9 GHz and mid-band spectrums. Now, we are even closer to unleashing innovation and the #5G economy.” ([Tweet](#), 11/20/19)

Rep. Billy Long (MO): “Thanks @AjitPaiFCC, @MikeoFCC and all Commissioners for working to ensure that our nation’s spectrum is put to its highest-value use. It is crucial that we use this precious and finite resource of unlicensed spectrum in an efficient way as we win the race to #5G.” ([Tweet](#), 11/21/19)

Rep. Mark Walker (NC): “Thank you @AjitPaiFCC for your decision to open up new spectrum for unlicensed use. The availability of the 5.9 GHz band will give the U.S. boundless potential for multigig innovation. Access to fast & secure WiFi will bring NC new opportunities for economic & rural development.” ([Tweet](#), 11/22/19)

Rep. Tom Emmer (MN): “WiFi has allowed for connectivity & innovation. I’m proud to have sent a letter to the FCC supporting this action. Thanks to Chairman @AjitPaiFCC for putting forward a reasonable compromise in the 5.9 GHz band to power next-gen connectivity.” ([Tweet](#), 11/26/19)

Rep. Brian Babin (TX): “Well done @AjitPaiFCC! 5.9 GHz has great potential to provide valuable #unlicensedspectrum to win the race to 5G & bring faster speeds to more Southeast Texans.” ([Tweet](#), 11/26/19)

Rep. Andy Biggs (AZ): “I applaud Chairman @AjitPaiFCC on his decision to open the 5.9 GHz band to the free market. This proposal will spur billions of dollars in economic growth, improve WiFi availability, and give Americans access to faster WiFi.” ([Tweet](#), 11/24/19)

Think Tanks and Consumer Groups

ALLvanza: “The 5.9 GHz band is extremely valuable in supporting next generation Wi-Fi networks and associated technology. Spectrum is such a scarce and valuable commodity that we must ensure to manage it as effectively and fairly as possible. ... It’s encouraging to see @AjitPaiFCC taking decisive action to make 5.9 GHz band available to support future innovation that benefits consumers.” ([Tweet](#), 11/20/19)

American Commitment: “It is a shame that prime spectrum has lain fallow for two decades. We therefore couldn't be more enthusiastic about Chairman Pai's proposal to finally open the 45 MHz adjacent to current Wi-Fi users for unlicensed use. ... Chairman Pai's proposal will bring better, faster Wi-Fi to millions of Americans with substantial economic benefits, while enhancing vehicle safety.” ([Statement](#), 11/26/19)

Americans for Tax Reform: “We appreciate the FCC’s steps to review 75 MHz of valuable spectrum for both unlicensed use and auto safety.” ([Statement](#), 11/21/19)

Center For Individual Freedom: “This spectrum has sat unused for 20 years! Thank you Chairman @AjitPaiFCC for putting forward a commonsense proposal that, as you put it, ‘would do far more for both automotive safety and #WiFi than the status quo.’” ([Tweet](#), 11/20/19)

Citizens Against Government Waste: “Properly utilizing this spectrum will positively impact everything from communications between automobiles, to virtual reality (VR) video games, to improved availability of Wi-Fi in public spaces like stadiums and libraries. ... This announcement is another key step being taken by the FCC under Chairman Pai to perpetuate America’s global leadership in telecommunications and technology.” ([Statement](#), 11/20/19)

Competitive Enterprise Institute: “Spectrum is an exceptionally scarce resource of great importance and for the last 20 years, the government has essentially let an entire band go unused because of incorrect assumptions. Chairman Pai deserves tremendous credit for acknowledging the failed policy that has let useful spectrum sit fallow and for his efforts to do what government rarely does: improve efficiency.” ([News Release](#), 11/20/19)

Consortium for School Networking: “@CoSN welcomes @FCC decision to open additional spectrum to #WiFi. Expanding access to help to meet the needs of students & teachers promote innovations in teaching and learning.” ([Tweet](#), 11/20/19)

Electronic Frontier Foundation: “We support this FCC decision because unlicensed spectrum allows innovators big and small to make use of a public asset without paying license fees or obtaining advance government permission. Users gain improved wireless services, more competition, and more services making the most of an asset that belongs to all of us.” ([Statement](#), 12/4/19)

Engine: “Access to #WiFi is critical for #startups looking to grow their platforms. Thank you @AjitpaiFCC for taking a step forward to open up the 5.9 GHz band of spectrum for more Wi-Fi.” ([Tweet](#), 11/20/19)

Free State Foundation: “Chairman Pai’s announcement today that he would ask the Commission to launch a reorganization of the 5.9 GHz band to accommodate unlicensed and automotive safety use is good news. Because this 75 MHz of mid-band spectrum has remained almost fallow for twenty years, a modernized and more flexible use band which provides more spectrum for Wi-Fi and other unlicensed applications will better serve the future of Americans’ communications needs.” ([Statement](#), 11/20/19)

FreedomWorks: “Twenty years ago, the government allocated 75 megahertz to develop dedicated short-range communications (DSRC) for vehicle safety. In the decades since, this technology has not panned out. . . . It is time for our public officials to recognize the mistakes of the past and open up this spectrum for other uses to prevent it from being wasted on this failed experiment. We thank Chairman Pai for taking initiative in this matter and are looking forward to participating in any public comment period.” ([Statement](#), 12/3/19)

Multicultural Media, Telecom and Internet Council: “MMTC supports @FCC proposal to reallocate "largely unused" 5.9 GHz #spectrum band to provide more #unlicensed service, providing more opportunities for #5G deployment, connecting underserved, low-income, and minority communities, and closing the #DigitalDivide!” ([Tweet](#), 11/20/19)

New America’s Open Technology Institute: “The Chairman’s proposal to segment the 5.9 GHz band between unlicensed and auto safety is a total win-win for consumers. Both auto safety and faster, more affordable Wi-Fi are very important to consumers and the economy. This proposal can almost immediately add a new gigabit-fast Wi-Fi channel so that schools, libraries, homes, and businesses of every kind will have enough bandwidth to support next generation Wi-Fi technologies.” ([Statement](#), 11/26/19)

Pelican Center for Technology and Innovation: “Consumers can have access to stronger Wi-Fi without giving up on technology like driver-less cars. Once again the @FCC is putting consumers and innovation first.” ([Tweet](#), 11/20/19)

Public Knowledge: “Consumers will benefit as new products develop to take advantage of the expanded bandwidth the 5.9 GHz band would provide. This decision would also benefit communities of color and those who are hurt by the digital divide. Expanding the spectrum dedicated for unlicensed use allows for more access to high-speed internet for more people. We applaud the FCC and Chairman Pai for this decision and look forward to the opening up of more spectrum bands for unlicensed use.” ([News Release](#), 11/20/19)

Taxpayers Protection Alliance: “Today marks the beginning of an exciting new chapter in the saga of spectrum allocation. Chairman Pai has chosen to move forward with a spectrum sharing approach that will better millions of lives while opening the door for vehicle communication innovation. The 5.9 band of spectrum may be woefully underutilized now, but this announcement makes clear that opportunities abound for making the best use of this bandwidth.” ([Statement](#), 11/20/19)

TechFreedom: “Chairman Pai’s proposal would turn a failed experiment into a win-win for all Americans. . . . We applaud the FCC’s willingness to reconsider this twenty-year-old experiment in favor of paths that have more immediate consumer benefits. Releasing 45 MHz for unlicensed use, while retaining 30 MHz for vehicle communication technologies will accommodate the public interests in both innovation and safety.” ([Statement](#), 11/20/19)

WifiForward: “This year marks the 20th anniversary of Wi-Fi — a technology that now carries the majority of all internet traffic and supports everything from medical telemetry and

connected learning to secure financial transactions and machine communications. We wholeheartedly support the Commission's common-sense move to take a fresh look at the 5.9 GHz band for Wi-Fi, which will turn a stagnant resource into fuel for our wireless economy. We look forward to working with the Commission on the details." ([Statement](#), 11/20/19)

Industry

5G Automotive Association: "The 5G Automotive Association applauds Chairman Ajit Pai for proposing to dedicate a portion of the automotive safety spectrum for the use of Cellular Vehicle-to-Everything (C-V2X). Extensive crash avoidance testing continues to demonstrate that C-V2X technology will deliver safety benefits to the American public. We look forward to working with all stakeholders throughout this process to ensure that spectrum regulations adequately address the needs of transportation safety." ([Statement](#), 11/20/19)

Ford: "Without this proceeding, CV2X cannot be deployed. Without this proceeding, innovation is paralyzed. Without this proceeding, the opportunity to realize significant safety benefits is delayed. Triggering a deliberative process to carefully but expeditiously include CV2X as a crash avoidance technology is the appropriate and timely step. It will also mitigate congestion, reduce carbon emissions and lead to widespread socioeconomic benefits." ([Letter](#), 11/21/19)

Intel: "We commend U.S. FCC Chairman Pai for releasing a draft Notice of Proposed Rulemaking which recognizes the benefits that Cellular Vehicle-to-Everything (C-V2X) technology can bring to transportation safety. As a founding member of the 5G Automotive Association (5GAA), Intel supports this forward-thinking proposal to allocate spectrum for C-V2X in the 5.9 GHz band." ([Statement](#), 11/26/19)

National Puerto Rican Chamber of Commerce: "America's #smallbiz 's & #entrepreneurs need every advantage available to compete in an increasingly global world. We're supporting the @FCC's effort to open the 5.9 GHz band to improve opps for our members across the US!" ([Tweet](#), 11/20/19)

NCTA – The Internet and Television Association: "The Chairman's proposal will enable the fastest gigabit Wi-Fi speeds in America, ensuring that Wi-Fi can keep pace with growing consumer demand and the deployment of next-generation wireless broadband technologies." ([Statement](#), 11/20/19)

Nokia: "C-V2X technology allows vehicles to share critical information, and deployment of this technology has the promise to greatly improve vehicle safety as well as the efficient movement of vehicles on our Nation's roads. Moving forward with an NPRM now is therefore a critical and timely step by Chairman Pai, showing great leadership." ([Statement](#), 11/27/19)

Qualcomm: "Qualcomm is very pleased that FCC Chairman Pai is proposing to allocate the upper 20 MHz of 5.9 GHz for C-V2X, as the 5G Auto Association proposed last year. This visionary FCC proposal will enable us to bring the tremendous, unmatched safety benefits from C-V2X to US drivers, passengers, and pedestrians. We look forward to working with the FCC and all other stakeholders to get C-V2X on the air as quickly and broadly as possible." ([Tweet](#), 11/20/19)

Verizon: "Chairman Pai's support for C-V2X, which has the potential to revolutionize America's roadways, demonstrates the FCC's commitment to the promise of next generation technology to improve the lives of all Americans. By enabling vehicles to talk to each other,

city infrastructure, and even pedestrians, C-V2X will improve safety, reduce traffic congestion, and lower vehicle emissions.” ([Statement](#), 12/2/19)

Wireless Internet Service Providers Association: “WISPA commends FCC Chairman Ajit Pai for finding a creative way to resolve the underutilization of spectrum in the 5.9 GHz band. ... This could also allow rural Americans to benefit from high bandwidth applications which the new generation of Wi-Fi technologies – powered by the Wi-Fi 6 protocol – would unleash.” ([Statement](#), 11/20/19)

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This is an unofficial announcement of Commission action. Release of the full text of a Commission order constitutes official action. See MCI v. FCC, 515 F.2d 385 (D.C. Cir. 1974).