

**STATEMENT OF
COMMISSIONER OLIVIA TRUSTY**

Re: *Upper C-band (3.98–4.2 GHz); Expanding Flexible Use of the 3.7 to 4.2 GHz Band*, GN Docket Nos. 25-59 and 18-122, Report and Order, Order of Proposed Modification, and Order on Reconsideration (July 22, 2026).

Today's Report and Order marks a significant milestone in advancing the United States' continued leadership in wireless innovation and next-generation communications.

Thanks to President Trump and Congress, who restored the FCC's general spectrum auction authority in the Working Families Tax Cuts Act, we are another step closer to making more spectrum available for full-power, licensed use. This will drive increased investment in 5G today and lay the foundation for the 6G ecosystem of tomorrow.

In addition to building on the successful framework established in the lower C-band, this item positions the FCC to conduct the auction of upper C-band spectrum on an aggressive timeline, while also establishing a clear and predictable process for transitioning incumbent satellite operators out of the band. On top of that, this item ensures that support will be available for reasonable and necessary relocation costs and will preserve the continuity of essential broadcast and communications services. Importantly, this Report and Order will protect aviation safety amid our ongoing work to intensify spectrum use – work that is critical to our long-term economic competitiveness and national resilience.

Looking ahead, today's action has the potential to advance international progress on spectrum policy as well, by demonstrating how more resilient radar altimeters can support greater coexistence among the aviation community, federal users, and commercial wireless operations in 4 GHz and other bands.

Indeed, these are significant accomplishments or anticipated outcomes, but the greatest beneficiaries of this item will be American consumers. Expanding access to valuable mid-band spectrum will enable providers to deploy faster, more reliable and affordable wireless services, and expand capacity to deliver the benefits of emerging technologies like artificial intelligence to communities across the country.

Although there is still important work ahead to ensure a successful auction and an orderly transition for incumbent operators, today's action puts us firmly on the right path. It demonstrates that the Commission is fully committed to advancing spectrum policies that meet the demands of the future and strengthen America's position as the world's leader in wireless innovation.

Finally, this item reflects an extraordinary collaborative effort. I commend Chairman Carr and FCC staff for their thoughtful and diligent work in navigating the many complex technical, legal and operational issues involved, as well as the many stakeholders who contributed their expertise throughout this proceeding.

Thank you again to the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau for their excellent work on this item.