

In the meeting, the App Association introduced the Commission to some of its small business innovators to discuss the importance broadband has for their respective businesses. App Association members explained that small business innovators are the driving force behind the internet of things (IoT) revolution, but they need the network built to do so. The App Association discussed with FCC staff its “all of the above” approach to broadband infrastructure, which includes a wide array of wireless and wireline solutions to accomplish this goal.



To encourage more broadband deployment, App Association members expressed their support for the FCC's recent proposals in the Second Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, which clarifies local franchising authorities' roles under Section 621 of the Cable Communications Policy Act.<sup>1</sup> The 621 FNPRM proposal would bars local government authorities from making duplicative and disproportionate demands in return for the right for internet service providers to build broadband facilities. Moreover, the 621 FNPRM prevents unlawful taxation of broadband deployment. App Association members stressed that this action safeguards broadband deployment from discriminatory taxes, which is a crucial component that enables their businesses to create jobs, especially in rural areas. App Association members requested that the Commission move forward with 621 FNPRM proposal as written.

Regarding wireless-based solutions, the App Association and its members expressed their support for the Commission's recent actions related to 5G buildout for wireless infrastructure.<sup>2</sup> We are excited to see the Commission using its authority to remove regulatory barriers so that every American can participate in the digital economy.<sup>3</sup> App Association members applauded the Commission's efforts to encourage more small cell and macro cell deployment. We asked the FCC to continue on its current trajectory to ensure that states and localities facilitate 5G deployment without undue delay.

App Association members were encouraged to see the Commission looking to unlicensed spectrum to help the 5G ecosystem grow and noted that it had made positive strides in that regard generally.<sup>4</sup> In that vein, its recent action related to the opening up unlicensed television white space (TVWS) spectrum in the 600 MHz band furthers the FCC's unfettered commitment to bridging the digital divide.<sup>5</sup> App Association members stressed that this

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<sup>1</sup> *In the Matter of Implementation of Section 621(a)(1) of the Cable Communications Policy Act of 1984 as Amended by the Cable Television Consumer Protection and Competition Act*, MB Docket No. 05-311, Second Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (2018). Available at <https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DOC-353963A1.pdf>. (621 FNPRM).

<sup>2</sup> E.g., *In the Matter of Accelerating Wireless Broadband Deployment by Removing Barriers to Infrastructure Investment; Accelerating Wireline Broadband Deployment by Removing Barriers to Infrastructure Investment*, Declaratory Ruling and Third Report and Order, 33 FCC Rcd 9088 (2018).

<sup>3</sup> See *id.*

<sup>4</sup> E.g., see *id.*; see also, *In the Matter of Unlicensed Use of the 6 GHz Band, et al.*, Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, ET Docket No. 18-295, et al. (2018). Available at <https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DOC-354364A1.pdf>.

<sup>5</sup> *In the Matter of Amendment of Part 15 of the Commission's Rules for Unlicensed White Space Devices, et al.*, Report and Order and Order on Reconsideration, ET Docket No. 16-56, et al. (2019). Available at <https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/FCC-19-24A1.pdf>.

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