

In March, the FCC made an innovative and helpful decision to open up a new band of spectrum for community wireless folks and others to use: the 3650 to 3700 MHz band. The plan was for there to be an unlimited number of licensees throughout the country, with an easy online application process, no eligibility restrictions to speak of, and with all licensees having a mutual obligation to cooperate and avoid harmful interference to each other. I thank the FCC for this. I know the band is currently used for Fixed Satellite Stations and they would continue to use it in and near their facilities which are mostly on the East and West Coasts, and exclusion zones around those facilities would prevent much of any usage nearby. For that reason, some coastal cities, such as New York, Philadelphia and the Bay Area would not benefit much if at all from the new rules, but the great majority of the geographic area of the country including rural areas would benefit and many major metropolitan areas such as Albuquerque, Atlanta, Austin, Boston, Chicago, Cleveland, Columbus, Detroit, Houston, Kansas City, Las Vegas, Milwaukee, New Orleans, Oklahoma City, Phoenix, San Antonio, and Tucson. Despite this, I think the current FCC plan is needed & is good for America.

I have an interest in equitable access to technology, & I am thanking the FCC for opening up the spectrum for uses that can bridge the digital divide. I also oppose the idea that the rights to the spectrum should instead be auctioned to the highest bidder.