

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re:
MM Docket No. 99-25 (LPFM Proceeding)

Dear Ms. Dortch:

I am writing to thank the FCC Commissioners for their recent steps towards licensing new low power FM radio stations. As a supporter of the Chicago Independent Radio Project (CHIRP), I am writing today to ask you to be sure to allow room for new LPFMs in large markets like Chicago. It's crucial to allow new grassroots radio stations like CHIRP the opportunity to broadcast to our vibrant, diverse urban audiences.

I strongly support the idea of dismissing all pending translator licenses in markets where a set LPFM "floor" could not be met if additional translator licenses were granted. I'd also ask that, moving forward, the Commission make sure there is room for urban LPFMs in the country's largest markets by providing opportunities for waivers for second adjacent channels, as called for in the Local Community Radio Act.

I support CHIRP by donating time and money to the organization. I believe in CHIRP because I feel there should always be a public broadcast outlet for independent music that otherwise might not get heard.

People are hungry for more diverse radio options, especially those living in big cities where the music played by most stations has become homogenized. CHIRP provides the opportunity for Chicagoans to hear local and independent music that is underappreciated elsewhere on the radio. And that is a very good thing.

But CHIRP is about more than just music. The station also covers artistic and cultural events in Chicago that do not have support from any other media outlet.

Please give groups like CHIRP the chance to apply for broadcast licenses by providing the flexibility to ensure frequencies can be found to license new LPFMs in urban areas.

Best Regards,

Kyle Akerman
Chicago Independent Radio Project
Volunteer / Donor / Listener