I agree the FCC should be changing the current AM radio & update the modulation to more advanced technical modulation of the broadcast band.

The FCC should allow other forms of modulation besides amplitude modulation in the current AM radio [535-1605] kHz band.

The current AM = amplitude modulation waste power & frequency spectrum. 50 percent of the radio frequency power is wasted into the carrier. 25 of the power are wasted into a duplicate side band & frequency spectrum space. Thus a 1000-watt station only 250 watts are needed to the radio receiver.

The FCC should allow a single side band at 95 percent of the rated carrier. For example WABC would have a carrier at their carrier at their current licensed power of 50000 watts & the side band at 45000 watts.

The old tube transmitters could be more easily changed. They could add the carrier & one of the side bands from 2 separate low level circuits to the final amplifier.

The result would be some small cost to the broadcaster transmitter. But the existing radios would work much better because the higher power in the side band

Changing a tube AM transmitter to use Frequency modulation while using the same frequency would be a small cost to old tube transmitters. That might be the least expense to improve AM radio transmitter. They will use the same antenna towers & use the same RF power amplifier. They could use a Low level Frequency Modulation circuits at the AM radio frequency connected to the final amplifier using narrow band Frequency Modulation like has been used for police for 2 way radios. Frequency modulation is more power efficient that Am modulation because all of the power is into modulation signal & not wasted like stated above. The FCC should still License same power lever on a Frequency Modulation transmitter as the analog AM is Licensed while using Frequency modulation on the AM frequency. A new radio that receives frequency modulation over the AM radio frequency will be much quieter, less noise & no static than the current AM radio reception is under weaker signal & electrical noisy environments.
The current FM 88 -108 audio is great for music but the current FM waste frequency bandwidth on Voice.
Sports, news & talk radios do not need the 15-kilohertz audio bandwidth that the currant FM broadcast uses. 5-kilohertz audio will provide sufficient voice grade broadcast. All voice & non-music broadcast on those services should be required to move to narrow band of 5 KC audio to frequency modulation over the current AM channel using an AM frequency.
Amplitude modulation is the oldest form of audio modulation. It is subject to all kinds of interference, noise & static. It should be replaced with a better modulation even in citizen band radios that should be changed to frequency modulation.

But the FCC will need to supplement the introduction & distribution of new radios to receive frequency modulation so there will be radios to receive like WABC using frequency modulation over the frequency 770 kilohertz. Also the FCC should attempt to implement frequency modulation & free digital coding of over the existing AM frequencies in the new automobile radios. Finally in those FCC supplemented radios should have the option to intercept the signal from the receiver before it is sent to be demodulates or decoded so a new decoder can be [patched] in] connected. Thus any new technology not available at the time of the sell of the radio could be later put into use on those radios.

As for digital modulation is should be free open source digital coding & not one the broadcaster must pay reoccurring royally fees to use the coding in the digital modulation. An example of digital broadcasting like Digital Radio Mondale The digital modulation should be at the same Licensed power as the power they are currently using for analog AM modulation.

The FCC could license stations to use any of the 3 modes of modulation. Frequency modulation, digital modulation & single side band with the carrier. But I do not believe the FCC should abandon the current AM radio [535-1605] kHz band broadcast use. That frequency will go around mountains, over hills & through valleys many miles out side the Local broadcast area. Many times when a hurricane has taken all of the Local broadcast radio stations towers out; then a distant current AM radio [535-1605] kHz band stations give the folks a means of emergency communications. But because of the noise level at the AM frequency with any of the modes of modulation the radio stations should be allowed to run at the maximum power in order for the signal to over ride the noise.