



MAINTAINING LOCAL CONTROL OF THE 4.9 GHZ SPECTRUM BAND WHAT STATE AND LOCAL ENTITIES ARE SAYING

Recent filings from the Oregon Department of Emergency Management, the City of Fremont in Nebraska, the City of Toledo in Ohio, the City of Lima in Ohio, the City of Boston in Massachusetts, California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), League of Wisconsin Municipalities, the city of Dover in Delaware, the Athens, Ohio County Commissioner, Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA), Verizon, and both the Milwaukee County Executive and the City of Milwaukee in Wisconsin have voiced strong opposition to a proposal from the Public Safety Spectrum Alliance (PSSA) to transfer the 4.9GHz spectrum band out of local hands and to the nationwide FirstNet Authority (FNA) which has an exclusive contract with AT&T.

These filings highlight the diverse and essential uses of the 4.9GHz spectrum band across the country, emphasizing the need for local control to those tasked with the safety of their communities have the tools they need to do the job.

What They're Saying:

The City of Milwaukee:

"The PSSA's proposal would radically restructure the band and, if adopted, would eliminate local public-safety choice and control of this critical spectrum resource."



MAYOR CAVALIER JOHNSON
CITY OF MILWAUKEE



The City of Toledo, Ohio:

"The local nature of the 4.9 GHz band is also crucial for future preparedness and providing network resiliency to first responders."

Milwaukee County Executive:

"One of the most valuable elements of the 4.9 GHz band is the ad hoc control of public-safety communications at the local level."



Oregon Department of Emergency Management:

"SWI appreciates the PSSA's efforts to preserve the 4.9 GHz band for public safety use but does not support the award of a nationwide license to the FirstNet Authority."



The City of Fremont, Nebraska:

"The PSSA's proposal to either directly or indirectly grant FirstNet access to a nationwide license for use of 4.9 GHz is problematic for several reasons."

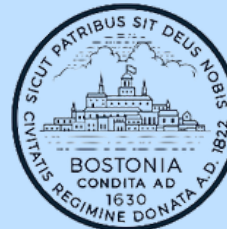


The City of Lima, Ohio:

"We urge the FCC to reject the PSSA proposal to protect not only our use of the 4.9 GHz band, but the use of the band by first responders everywhere in this country, and the bands critical role in securing public safety."

The City of Boston, Massachusetts:

The fact that spectrum may not be actively used does not diminish its importance to public-safety communications. Locally managed systems are critical for resiliency and redundancy, supporting the individual missions of Boston's public safety entities and allowing for continued emergency communication.



Metropolitan Transit Authority:

MTA stated that it opposed issuing a license to FirstNet, either directly or through use of an overlay license granted to the band manager, as such use was neither legally authorized nor consistent with the 2023 R&O.

California Department of Transportation:

Caltrans disagrees with the Public Safety Spectrum Alliance (PSSA) proposal to grant the First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet) a nationwide license for use of the 4.9 GHz spectrum.



League of Wisconsin Municipalities:

Across the state, users rely on the band to ensure continued communication in support of vital transportation, law enforcement, firefighting, and other public-safety services.



City of Dover Department of Police:

"This proposal could lead to all City of Dover emergency services potentially losing the full access and rights to the band. "



Athens County Commissioners



Athens County Commissioner:

[The PSSA proposal] would permit AT&T to use the band for commercial purposes, which runs counter to the mission of this public-safety band.

Alabama First Responders Wireless Commission:

"The AFRWC appreciates the PSSA's efforts to preserve the 4.9 GHz band for public safety use but does not support the award of a nationwide license to the FirstNet Authority."



State and local users of the 4.9GHz spectrum band agree - local control is critical to effective use of the band.