**What They Are Saying: The 12GHz Opportunity is Ready Now**

*Updated: March 21st, 2024*

Thought leaders, industry figures, and government officials agree: The 12 GHz band is a unique opportunity to improve U.S. networks, push forward American digital innovation and help connect underserved communities across the country.

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*“I’ve been talking about this [12.2-12.7 GHz Spectrum] even before the NPRM, because it gives us an opportunity. There is limited spectrum, you know that… We have to find new spectrum and I’m all in on this.”*

**Representative Doris Matsui (D-CA)**

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*“I believe that action in the 12 GHz space is going to be one of the important components to be able to help connect all of America.”*

**Senator Ben Ray Lujan (D-NM)**

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*“Spectrum, that is such a valuable asset, the 12.2-12.7 [bands] that we’re discussing, that is something that of course, you can share this, there is a way to do this… and the FCC should move forward on how this is going to license out.”*

**Senator Marsha Blackburn (R-TN)**

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*“I think job one of the FCC on Spectrum should be to identify, you know, large swaths of spectrum that we can open up for what we call sort of exclusive license use. But step two, you have to get to fast as well, which is when you can't, you gotta look for creative ways and maybe 12GHz is a way to do that.”*

**FCC Commissioner Brendan Carr**

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*“One thing that we think is really critical to address in the near term, and to address quickly, is for the FCC to move forward with authorizing two-way high powered fixed broadband service in the lower 12 gigahertz band, that is 12.2 to 12.7. And this is so critical, because it would unleash 500 megahertz of upper mid band spectrum that would help close the digital divide, it would help promote competition, and it would help promote Spectrum sharing.”*

**DISH Network**

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*“The 12GHz Band is demonstrably well-suited to broadband service and would do a great deal to close the broadband gap in unserved and underserved areas of the United States. CCIA is confident that the record will bear out that expanded use of this band is in the public interest.”*

**Computer & Communications Industry Association (CCIA)**

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*“Rural communities are working towards achieving affordable connectivity for residents, businesses, and visitors. We need to have every tool available at our disposal, and the 12 GHz band represents an immense opportunity. We feel confident that the FCC will recognize the merits of the 12 GHz band for rural communities and all Americans.”*

**Center for Rural Strategies**

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*“Reallocating the 12 GHz band would open massive contiguous channel blocks of midband spectrum. On top of C-Band, it would increase our midband spectrum footprint by 40 percent or more. Opening up this band would be a positive development in driving more innovation in the wireless space, pushing us forward in 6G and beyond.”*

**Digital Progress Institute**

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*“During a time of uncertainty and hamstrung American spectrum capabilities, policymakers must look for ways to make critical bandwidth available to consumers and industry alike. If the FCC doesn’t act soon, we risk holding back technologies that can help close the digital divide, today. The good news is the FCC can supply the American public with 500 MHz of easy to unleash mid-band spectrum through a regulatory decision that is ripe for action.”*

**Former Commissioner Michael O’Rielly, Federal Communications Commission**

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*““The FCC should open up the 12 GHz band using spectrum access models, such as authorizing opportunistic sharing and an unlicensed underlay on a non-interfering basis, by balancing a variety of efficiency metrics that serve the public. Rather than trying to maximize revenues generated by the 12 GHz band, re-calibrating the Commission’s approach to spectrum policy to focus on the overall economic impact, consumer impact, and technical usage of the band will maximize the public benefits of our 12 GHz airwaves.”*

**Public Knowledge**

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*“The FCC rulemaking offers the Commission the opportunity to add 1,050 MHz of contiguous mid-band spectrum between 12.2 - 13.25 GHz to meet the rapidly expanding demand for fixed and mobile broadband compacity.”*

**RS Access**

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*“As the primary representative that pulled together the diverse group of fixed wireless access providers that are members of the coalition, I am very optimistic that the Commission making a final assessment of 2 way higher power use for Point to Point and Point to Multipoint FWA systems is the right course forward.  I currently represent a network that covers 65,000 square miles in 10 States throughout the Midwestern USA.  Our ability to deliver gigabit broadband speeds over licensed or lightly licensed spectrum would be greatly enhanced by the 12GHz band being made available and licensable.  I welcome the opportunity to be able to utilize this band in our network architecture and hope the FCC will act swiftly to enable fixed wireless access providers to compete more solidly with new spectrum such as 12GHz.  Fiber will take 10+ years to be built in many US markets that lack speed and competition.  Enhancing Fixed Wireless Access through approving 12GHz higher power 2 way usage will be a game changer for the American consumer.”*

**MMWave & Cambridge Broadband**

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*“We are at a unique moment in broadband history where the massive infusion of private and public deployment funding must be met with an infusion of mid-band spectrum so that providers can offer services that finally bridge the digital divide. The record in this proceeding demonstrates that is technically feasible for two-way, high-powered fixed wireless to co-exist in 12.2 GHz band. This is a win-win for terrestrial and satellite deployments and will open up cost effective, robust, and reliable options for all consumers. We urge the FCC to act swiftly to complete this proceeding by the end of this year so this spectrum can be put to its best use.”*

**INCOMPAS**

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Download the 5G for 12 GHz Coalition’ Quotes: [HERE]