

DSA Statement on White House National Spectrum Strategy

The DSA is pleased to see that the National Spectrum Strategy, prepared by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) and published today, will expand access to advanced wireless broadband networks and drive technological innovation, specifically with regard to innovative spectrum sharing technologies. In particular, the DSA applauds the Strategy's recognition that "next-generation Wi-Fi networks, large satellite constellations in low-Earth orbit, rapidly increasing space launch cadences, aggregated data transfer requirements, 5G and 6G broadband networks, private wireless networks, autonomous vehicles, and other advanced systems drive demand. Dynamic spectrum sharing is one key to meet these growing demands, and the United States is uniquely positioned to embrace a whole-of-Nation approach to advance the state of technology for dynamic forms of sharing".

As recognized by President Biden, spectrum is one of the Nation's most important resources. Services provided over spectrum are essential for citizens to function in the 21st Century. Spectrum management policies should accelerate reliable and affordable high-speed internet access by helping to eliminate coverage gaps and enable diversity, equity, and inclusion for all.

As part of Pillar one, "A Spectrum Pipeline to Ensure U.S. Leadership in Advanced and Emerging Technologies", the Strategy identifies the 7 GHz band as a candidate to address the nation's growing demand for Wi-Fi and other unlicensed technologies. The 7 GHz band could enable additional 160 MHz and 320 MHz Wi-Fi channels. The DSA celebrates the possibility for larger bandwidth channels in this frequency range, while recognizing that there are mission-critical U.S. Federal operations in this band.

Pillar one also indicates that additional studies in the lower 3 GHz band will "explore dynamic spectrum sharing and other opportunities for private-sector access in the band, while ensuring DoD and other Federal mission capabilities are preserved, with any necessary changes". The DSA has actively advocated for this approach and celebrates NTIA's goal to expand access to spectrum for commercial use through dynamic spectrum-sharing technologies that will promote innovation and competition.

Having been a long-time advocate for shared use in the 37.0-37.6 GHz band, the DSA is excited that the strategy calls for this band to be further studied to implement a co-equal, shared-use framework between Federal and non-Federal users.

The DSA remains committed to working with the Administration, including the NTIA, FCC, and other Federal agencies, in the execution of this comprehensive strategy to modernize spectrum policy. We look forward to making the most efficient use possible of this vital national resource by supporting a balanced variety of approaches (including unlicensed, licensed, and shared-licensed models) for spectrum management.