

These comments support the creation of Low Power Radio Service.

I have published The Skanner, a weekly African American newspaper in Portland, Oregon for 25 years and am familiar with the diverse needs of the North/Northeast Portland community.

I believe low powered radio is necessary. There are no radio stations in Portland that specifically serve this community. News, commentary, the arts, and other information relevant to African-Americans is presented minimally by mainstream broadcast sources, but is not sufficient to provide information on life-affecting day-to-day issues specific to this community.

Our weekly newspaper supplies in depth reporting on issues, but issues often urgent in nature arise daily requiring coverage more timely than a weekly newspaper can deliver. There is no other media available to this community that provides expedient information on issues specifically relevant to this community.

This situation is typical across the country. I believe a 2 LFM station with 50 watts, 3KW would serve the urban markets in most cities. Low power radio service will provide the opportunity to develop radio stations to serve African Americans and other ethnic minorities, and will fulfill a need for diverse broadcasting nationally.

Thank you for inviting these comments.

Sincerely,

Bernard V. Foster
Publisher