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**STATEMENT OF ITS AMERICA PRESIDENT & CEO SHAILEN BHATT ON
FCC'S 5.9GHz FINAL ORDER**

In light of the increase in fatalities on American roadways last year, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) made a dangerous decision to give away a majority of the 5.9 GHz spectrum previously reserved for transportation safety. Not only has the FCC limited transportation use to 30 MHz of spectrum, it has failed to show that it will ensure that spectrum is usable by protecting it from harmful interference. The Intelligent Transportation Society of America (ITS America) has repeatedly said this decision will jeopardize public safety, as have nearly all other transportation safety experts.

Our recent [analysis](#) shows that advanced Vehicle-to-Everything (V2X) applications will likely be lost within a 30 MHz environment. Additionally, USDOT and numerous transportation stakeholders have voiced serious concern that the FCC proposal would fail to adequately protect the remaining 30 MHz for V2X communications, potentially rendering it unusable. Given its determination to move forward with this misguided reallocation proposal, the FCC must at a minimum work with the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) and the transportation industry to ensure that the remaining 30 MHz is free of harmful interference and usable for V2X technologies.

The National Safety Council's shocking estimate of an eight percent jump in fatalities last year (42,060) is a stark example that while we have designed safer vehicles and built safer roads, we have continued to lose tens of thousands of people every year for decades. The only way to move from tens of thousands of deaths toward zero is by widely deploying V2X technology.

Similarly, despite more fuel efficient vehicles, transportation still accounts for 29 percent of greenhouse gas emissions in the United States. Achieving the President's stated goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 50 percent by 2030 will be extremely difficult without the environmental and congestion benefits that widespread V2X deployment will provide.

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About ITS America

The Intelligent Transportation Society of America advances the research and deployment of intelligent transportation technologies to save lives, improve mobility, increase accessibility and equity, promote sustainability, and improve efficiency and productivity. Our vision is a better future transformed by intelligent mobility: safer, greener, smarter. For more information, please visit www.itsa.org