

IEEE 802.11 WLAN Working Group Liaison Communication

Source: IEEE 802.11 Working Group¹

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Subject: Liaison communication to the Bluetooth SIG

Approval: Approved by the IEEE 802.11 Working Group at IEEE 802.11 plenary meeting,
 Bangkok, Thailand, 14 November 2025

Dear members of the Bluetooth SIG,

The IEEE 802.11 Working Group appreciates the regular updates we have received from the Bluetooth SIG on the topic of specification development by the Bluetooth SIG targeting the 6 GHz and 5 GHz frequency bands.

¹ This document represents the views of the IEEE 802.11 Working Group and does not necessarily represent a position of the IEEE, the IEEE Standards Association, or IEEE 802.

These updates commenced in November 2022 [1] and the most recent update was provided in July 2025 [2]. The consistent theme in the series of updates from the Bluetooth SIG is the desire to collaborate and to develop coexistence mechanisms to share the bands equitably.

In the most recent updates provided, it was pointed out by the Bluetooth SIG that Narrowband (NB) technology is already deployed in U-NII-3 (5.8 GHz).

It is also noted that in September 2025, the Bluetooth SIG provided a submission to ETSI BRAN regarding “*NBA-DAA Channel Access Mechanisms to EN 303 687 DRAFT V1.1.7*” (6 GHz standard). This document was not available for feedback by the 802.11 community prior to the ETSI BRAN meeting.

Given the critical importance of effective sharing mechanisms for the reliability and quality of both NB operation and Wi-Fi / 802.11 operation in the 5 GHz and 6 GHz bands, the IEEE 802.11 Working Group is requesting the Bluetooth SIG to provide an update on SIG specification development for the 5 GHz band and the 6 GHz band, with a specific emphasis on coexistence mechanisms included in the specifications, within the next 2 months and establish a regular cadence of updates.

We welcome continued dialogue and value your insights and feedback. We sincerely appreciate Bluetooth SIG to consider assigning a liaison to replace Rich Kennedy.

Future meeting dates: See: http://www.ieee802.org/11/Meetings/Meeting_Plan.html for Future meeting dates of the IEEE 802.11 Working Group]

References:

- [1] <https://mentor.ieee.org/802.11/dcn/22/11-22-1672-00-coex-bluetooth-in-6-ghz.pptx>
- [2] <https://mentor.ieee.org/802.11/dcn/25/11-25-1051-00-coex-bluetooth-sig-july-2025-update.pptx>

Sincerely,

Robert Stacey

Chair, IEEE 802.11 WLAN Working Group