



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Fraser Valley Metropolitan Recreation District

June 1, 2021 — The FCC created the Low Power Television service (LPTV) in 1982 to provide opportunities for locally oriented television service in small communities. The service offers programming tailored to the interests of viewers in such small localized areas, and it does so in a less expensive and more flexible way than traditional full-power television stations. In 1988, the FVMRD installed a receive/transmit tower and TV translator equipment at the top of Mary Jane ski area to re-broadcast Denver television stations to the Fraser Valley. This provided an opportunity for residents to have access to TV stations they might not have had otherwise.

Congress established a deadline of June 12, 2009, for all full-power TV stations to transition from analog broadcasts to only digital. The FCC set a date of Sept. 1, 2015, for LPTV service to complete their transition.

In anticipation of the upcoming deadline for LPTV transition, the FVMRD commissioned a TV Translator Committee in 2013, made up of staff and LPTV service users, to look at our system and the potential costs associated with a digital upgrade. The committee recommended continuing to maintain the analog system until September 2015 and *not* invest in a digital upgrade. The decision was based on a number of factors including costs, topographical issues that exclude some residents from accessing the service and increased availability of technology and television services that didn't exist in the area in 1988.

As the 2015 deadline approached, the FCC extended the deadline for the termination of all analog operations by LPTV/translator stations to July 13, 2021. The FVMRD is committed to continue operations of the LPTV up until this date, but will not transition this service to digital. Therefore, the FVMRD LPTV signal will no longer be available to residents beginning Wednesday, July 14th, 2021.

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