

January 2, 2024

To: Chilmark Select Board From: Friends of MVYRADIO

Friends of MVYRADIO Inc ("Friends") is a 501.C.3 not-for-profit corporation, organized under the laws of Massachusetts. Friends owns and operates WMVY-FM, licensed to Edgartown, MA, a non-commercial radio station serving Martha's Vineyard, Nantucket, Newport and Cape Cod. WMVY's broadcasting antenna for the 88.7FM signal is mounted on a tower in Tisbury, MA, located on the northeastern portion of the island. The signal of the station, while considerable, is terrain shielded by the topography of the island resulting in many of the residents of Chilmark. Menemsha and Aquinnah being unable to receive the station over the air.

Friends has applied and received a supplemental non-commercial license from the Federal Communications Commission to broadcast on Martha's Vineyard on an additional signal. In order for the new license to broadcast effectively and provide service to those underserved on the island, the new station's antenna must be mounted on a tower that has "line of sight" access to those portions of the island where the current signal is impaired - namely portions of Chilmark, Menemsha and Aquinnah. Chilmark's fire station on North Road provides an excellent location as a transmission site for the new station to work in tandem with WMVY to provide full island coverage for all island residents.

The resulting combination of signals would, in addition to providing the standard radio broadcast of WMVY, also provide access to the FCC's Emergency Alert System (EAS) to all the residents of Martha's Vineyard from a locally licensed broadcast facility. The EAS provides critical contact for those in the station's licensed area for any emergency, particularly weather related.

Friends is seeking permission from the Select Board to replace the current antenna located on the roof of the Chilmark fire station located on North Road with a more robust transmission structure anchored to the ground that could support the antenna of the radio station, as well as any communication antennas for the Town of Chilmark, and critical communication devices for emergency services the town deemed appropriate. Friends would take full responsibility for the construction of the proposed structure but would be open to either continuing to own the completed project or donating the structure to the town in exchange for a long-term license agreement for the new station's antenna.

Thank you for your consideration.

Rogers Brandon

MVYRADIO Board Vice Chair

MVYRADIO Executive Director

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88.7FM Cape & Islands

96.5FM Newport, RI

Friends of MVYRADIO, Inc. is a registered 501(c)3 organization. Tax ID #46-3432541.





