

Liaison Statement from IEEE 802.11 Working Group to IETF BABEL Working Group

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From: Dorothy Stanley Chair, IEEE 802.11 WLAN Working Group dorothy.stanley@hpe.com

Subject: Liaison to IETF Babel WG on Alternative Path Selection Protocol

Dear Donald and Russ,

The IEEE 802.11 WG understands that there is interest within the IETF BABEL Working Group to specify a variation of the BABEL protocol and/or BABEL link metrics for use in IEEE 802.11 standard based mesh systems.

While the IEEE 802.11 WG has no view on whether such an activity is justified or not, the IEEE 802.11 WG has no objection to such work being undertaken in the IETF. Such work is possible because the IEEE 802.11 standard was designed to enable the development of a variety of mesh path selection protocols and/or link metrics to extend the range of conditions for which an IEEE 802.11 mesh is suitable.

It was intended that path selection protocols could be developed independently of the IEEE 802.11 Working Group. If allocation of any IEEE 802.11 code points is found to be beneficial for a BABEL based path selection protocol for mesh, such code points must be allocated

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.

through the IEEE 802.11 ANA (Assigned Number Authority) mechanism to avoid conflict. Approval of such allocations will be considered by the IEEE 802.11 WG upon request.

The IEEE 802.11 WG appreciates the interest of the BABEL WG in IEEE 802.11 mesh. Should you undertake this work, please keep us apprised of your progress.

For your reference, [IEEE Std 802.11-2020](#) is the current version of the IEEE 802.11 Standard.

Please contact me as chairman of the IEEE 802.11 Working Group and Peter Yee as IEEE 802.11 to IETF Liaison Officer for further information.

Best Regards,

Dorothy Stanley

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