

City/County Telecommunications Commission

RESOLUTION 2023-03

Regarding Annual Review of Educational Access Programming and Re-Designation of TV ETC as Educational Access Cable Provider

Section 1. Findings

- 1.1 The cable television franchise agreement between Comcast of Washington, V LLC ("Comcast"), the City of Vancouver ("City") and Clark County ("County"), requires that the Grantor (City and County) designate authorized entity or entities to manage or co-manage the Public, Educational and Government ("PEG") Access use channels on the cable system.
- 1.2 A consortium of K-20 educational institutions (public and private) operating as The Vancouver Educational Telecommunications Consortium (TV ETC) and funded through contributions from member institutions/districts, operates three channels on the local cable system which are the designated educational access channels. The Commission originally approved the designation under the cable television franchise agreement via Resolution 1998-09 on December 3, 1998. TV ETC has been re-designated annually as the Educational Access Provider since that time.
- 1.3 All designated access providers (public, educational, and government) will be evaluated and reviewed annually by the Commission consistent with the provisions of the cable franchise agreement, Section 5.19.300 of the Vancouver Municipal Code and Clark County Code 36.12.160 and Section 1.6 of this Resolution.
- 1.4 TV ETC submitted an application to the Commission seeking designation as the authorized educational access provider on June 1, 2023 (attached as EXHIBIT A).
- 1.5 The Commission reviewed the TV ETC request for re-designation and representatives from TV ETC made a presentation to the Commission on June 1, 2023, in support of the re-designation and to review programming on the local educational access channels.
- 1.6 The performance criteria for designation is to include, but is not limited to the following:
 - a) Number of hours of locally produced original video programming/week per channel;
 - b) Number of hours of locally scheduled video programming/week per channel;
 - c) Number of days and hours per week the channel is programmed with locally produced and locally scheduled video programming;
 - d) Amount of operating budget which meets or exceeds the criteria of operating funds to capital funds established in section 9.6 of the franchise agreement with Comcast Corporation;
 - e) Extent to which locally produced and locally scheduled video programming focuses on the designated access category;
 - f) Extent to which the locally produced and locally scheduled video programming provides value added to cable television subscribers in meeting the demonstrated needs established in the community ascertainment study.

- g) Number of hours produced by each TV ETC member;
- h) Number of hours scheduled for each TV ETC member;
- i) Total number of local programs produced and airing on one of the three channels and by which providers/members, as well as by which grade level (elementary, middle school, high school) as appropriate, for airing on TV ETC channel.

1.7 The Commission finds that TV ETC, as the designated educational access provider since June 2, 2022, has fully complied with the criteria and expectations for designation (as documented in the TV ETC Annual Production Reports 2022 – EXHIBIT B) and and recommends that the designation should remain in effect and that the designation will be reviewed and evaluated annually by the Commission.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

Section 2.

- 2.1 The City/County Telecommunications Commission, through this Resolution, recommends the continued designation of TV ETC as the educational access provider for the Comcast cable system, subject to annual review by the Commission as outlined in Section 1.3 and Section 1.6 of this Resolution.
- 2.2 The Commission recommends that TV ETC continue to be allocated four channels, channels 27, 28, 29 and high-definition channel 328 on the Comcast cable system for educational access use.
- 2.3 Staff is directed to forward this Resolution to the Vancouver City Council and Clark County Council.

APPROVED (Date): June 1, 2023

Paul Dicker, Chair, City/County Telecommunications Commission

Exhibits:

- Exhibit A** – Designated Access Provider Application Form from TV ETC, dated April 20, 2023
- Exhibit B** – 2022 TV ETC Annual Report