# RESOLUTION NO. R-017 OWY

# THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF DOUGLAS, COLORADO

RESOLUTION APPROVING A CABLE FRANCHISE AGREEMENT BETWEEN COMCAST OF CALIFORNIA/COLORADO/FLORIDA/OREGON, INC., COMCAST OF CALIFORNIA/ILLINOIS/INDIANA/MICHIGAN, LP, COMCAST OF COLORADO IX, LLC, AND COMCAST OF COLORADO X, LLC AND THE COUNTY OF DOUGLAS, COLORADO.

WHEREAS, Comcast of California/Colorado/Florida/Oregon, Inc., Comcast of California/Colorado/Illinois/Indiana/Michigan, LP, Comcast of Colorado IX, LLC, and Comcast of Colorado X, LLC (hereinafter "Comcast") desire to enter into a cable franchise agreement with the County of Douglas, Colorado (hereinafter the "County") concerning the construction, operation, and maintenance of its system utilizing public rights-of-way and other properties within the County's jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Title VI of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended (47 U.S.C. § 521, et seq.), Colorado law, and County resolution, the County is authorized to grant or renew cable television system franchises for the purpose of constructing, operating and maintaining cable systems utilizing public rights-of-way and other property within the County's jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS, Comcast has constructed, and desires to continue to operate and maintain, a cable television system within the County's jurisdiction; and

WHEREAS, the County has a legitimate and necessary regulatory role in ensuring the maximum feasible availability of cable communications service, the high technical capability and reliability of cable systems in its jurisdiction, the availability of local programming, including public, educational and governmental access programming, optimum customer service, and fair rates; and

WHEREAS, the grant of a cable franchise to Comcast by the County is in the best interests of the citizens of the County, and the County is willing to enter into such an agreement in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in the cable franchise agreement attached hereto; now, therefore,

**BE IT RESOLVED,** BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF DOUGLAS, STATE OF COLORADO, that the Cable Franchise Agreement between Comcast of California/Colorado/Florida/Oregon, Inc., Comcast of California/Colorado/Illinois/Indiana/Michigan, LP, Comcast of Colorado IX, LLC, and Comcast of Colorado X, LLC and the County of Douglas, Colorado, a copy of which is attached hereto and incorporated herein, is hereby approved, and the Chairman of the Board is authorized to execute the agreement on behalf of Douglas County.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** this 12th day of August, 2017, in Castle Rock, Douglas County, Colorado.

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF DOUGLAS, COLORADO

BY:

ROGER A. PARTRIDGE, Chair

ATTEST:

EMILY WRENN, D

# COMCAST OF CALIFORNIA/COLORADO/FLORIDA/OREGON, INC., COMCAST OF CALIFORNIA/COLORADO/ILLINOIS/INDIANA/MICHIGAN, LP, COMCAST OF COLORADO IX, LLC, AND COMCAST OF COLORADO X, LLC AND DOUGLAS COUNTY, COLORADO

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# COMCAST OF CALIFORNIA/COLORADO/FLORIDA/OREGON, INC., COMCAST OF CALIFORNIA/COLORADO/ILLINOIS/INDIANA/MICHIGAN, LP, COMCAST OF COLORADO IX, LLC, AND COMCAST OF COLORADO X, LLC AND COUNTY OF DOUGLAS, COLORADO

#### CABLE FRANCHISE AGREEMENT

#### **SECTION 1. DEFINITIONS AND EXHIBITS**

#### (A) **DEFINITIONS**

For the purposes of this Franchise, the following terms, phrases, words and their derivations shall have the meaning given herein. When not inconsistent with the context, words used in the present tense include the future, words in the plural include the singular, and words in the singular include the plural. Words not defined shall be given their common and ordinary meaning. The word "shall" is always mandatory and not merely directory.

- 1.1 "Access" means the availability for noncommercial use by various agencies, institutions, organizations, groups and individuals in the community, including the County and its designees, of the Cable System to acquire, create, receive, and distribute video Cable Services and other services and signals as permitted under Applicable Law including, but not limited to:
  - a. "Public Access" means Access where community-based, noncommercial organizations, groups or individual members of the general public, on a nondiscriminatory basis, are the primary users.
  - b. "Educational Access" means Access where schools are the primary users having editorial control over programming and services. For purposes of this definition, "school" means any State-accredited educational institution, public or private, including, for example, primary and secondary schools, colleges and universities.
  - c. "Government Access" means Access where governmental institutions or their designees are the primary users having editorial control over programming and services.
- 1.2 "Access Channel" means any Channel, or portion thereof, designated for Access purposes or otherwise made available to facilitate or transmit Access programming or services.
- 1.3 "<u>Activated</u>" means the status of any capacity or part of the Cable System in which any Cable Service requiring the use of that capacity or part is available without further installation of system equipment, whether hardware or software.
- 1.4 "Affiliate," when used in connection with Grantee, means any Person who owns or controls, is owned or controlled by, or is under common ownership or control with, Grantee.

- 1.5 "Applicable Law" means any statute, ordinance, judicial decision, executive order or regulation having the force and effect of law that determines the legal standing of a case or issue.
- 1.6 "Bad Debt" means amounts lawfully billed to a Subscriber and owed by the Subscriber for Cable Service and accrued as revenues on the books of Grantee, but not collected after reasonable efforts have been made by Grantee to collect the charges.
- 1.7 "Basic Service" is the level of programming service which includes, at a minimum, all Broadcast Channels, all PEG SD Access Channels required in this Franchise, and any additional Programming added by the Grantee, and is made available to all Cable Services Subscribers in the Franchise Area.
- 1.8 "Board" means the Board of County Commissioners or its successor, the governing body of the Douglas County, Colorado.
- 1.9 "Broadcast Channel" means local commercial television stations, qualified low power stations and qualified local noncommercial educational television stations, as referenced under 47 USC § 534 and 535.
- 1.10 "Broadcast Signal" means a television or radio signal transmitted over the air to a wide geographic audience, and received by a Cable System by antenna, microwave, satellite dishes or any other means.
- 1.11 "Cable Act" means the Title VI of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended.
- 1.12 "Cable Operator" means any Person or groups of Persons, including Grantee, who provide(s) Cable Service over a Cable System and directly or through one or more affiliates owns a significant interest in such Cable System or who otherwise control(s) or is (are) responsible for, through any arrangement, the management and operation of such a Cable System.
- 1.13 "<u>Cable Service</u>" means the one-way transmission to Subscribers of video programming or other programming service, and Subscriber interaction, if any, which is required for the selection or use of such video programming or other programming service.
- 1.14 "Cable System" means any facility, including Grantee's, consisting of a set of closed transmissions paths and associated signal generation, reception, and control equipment that is designed to provide Cable Service which includes video programming and which is provided to multiple Subscribers within a community, but such term does not include (A) a facility that serves only to retransmit the television signals of one or more television broadcast stations; (B) a facility that serves Subscribers without using any Right-of-Way; (C) a facility of a common carrier which is subject, in whole or in part, to the provisions of Title II of the federal Communications Act (47 U.S.C. 201 et seq.), except that such facility shall be considered a Cable System (other than for purposes of Section 621(c) (47 U.S.C. 541(c)) to the extent such

facility is used in the transmission of video programming directly to Subscribers, unless the extent of such use is solely to provide interactive on-demand services; (D) an open video system that complies with federal statutes; or (E) any facilities of any electric utility used solely for operating its electric utility systems.

- 1.15 "Channel" means a portion of the electromagnetic frequency spectrum which is used in the Cable System and which is capable of delivering a television channel (as television channel is defined by the FCC by regulation).
- 1.16 "Colorado Communications and Utility Alliance" or "CCUA" means the non-profit entity formed by franchising authorities and/or local governments in Colorado or its successor entity, whose purpose is, among other things, to communicate with regard to franchising matters collectively and cooperatively.
- 1.17 "Commercial Subscribers" means any Subscribers other than Residential Subscribers.
- 1.18 "County" means Douglas County, Colorado.
- 1.19 "<u>Designated Access Provider</u>" means the entity or entities designated now or in the future by the County to manage or co-manage Access Channels and facilities. The County may be a Designated Access Provider.
- 1.20 "<u>Digital Starter Service</u>" means the Tier of optional video programming services, which is the level of Cable Service received by most Subscribers above Basic Service, and does not include Premium Services.
- 1.21 "<u>Downstream</u>" means carrying a transmission from the Headend to remote points on the Cable System or to Interconnection points on the Cable System.
- 1.22 "<u>Dwelling Unit</u>" means any building, or portion thereof, that has independent living facilities, including provisions for cooking, sanitation and sleeping, and that is designed for residential occupancy. Buildings with more than one set of facilities for cooking shall be considered Multiple Dwelling Units unless the additional facilities are clearly accessory.
- 1.23 "FCC" means the Federal Communications Commission.
- 1.24 "<u>Fiber Optic</u>" means a transmission medium of optical fiber cable, along with all associated electronics and equipment, capable of carrying Cable Service by means of electric lightwave impulses.
- 1.25 "Franchise" means the document in which this definition appears, *i.e.*, the contractual agreement, executed between the County and Grantee, containing the specific provisions of the authorization granted, including references, specifications, requirements and other related matters.

- 1.26 "Franchise Area" means the unincorporated area within the jurisdictional boundaries of the County.
- 1.27 "Franchise Fee" means that fee payable to the County described in subsection 3.1 (A).
- 1.28 "Grantee" means Comcast of California/Colorado/Florida/Oregon, Inc., Comcast of California/Colorado/Illinois/Indiana/Michigan, LP, Comcast of Colorado IX, LLC, and Comcast of Colorado X, LLC ("Comcast"), as successors in interest to TCI Cablevision of Florida, Inc., Mountain States Video Communications Co., and Mountain States Video, Inc., or its lawful successor, transferee or assignee.
- 1.29 "Gross Revenues" means, and shall be construed broadly to include all revenues derived directly or indirectly by Grantee and/or an Affiliated Entity that is the cable operator of the Cable System, from the operation of Grantee's Cable System to provide Cable Services within the Franchise Area. Gross revenues include, by way of illustration and not limitation:
  - monthly fees for Cable Services, regardless of whether such Cable Services are
    provided to residential or commercial customers, including revenues derived from
    the provision of all Cable Services (including but not limited to pay or premium
    Cable Services, digital Cable Services, pay-per-view, pay-per-event and video-ondemand Cable Services);
  - installation, reconnection, downgrade, upgrade or similar charges associated with changes in subscriber Cable Service levels;
  - fees paid to Grantee for channels designated for commercial/leased access use and shall be allocated on a pro rata basis using total Cable Service subscribers within the County;
  - converter, remote control, and other Cable Service equipment rentals, leases, or sales;
  - Advertising Revenues as defined herein;
  - late fees, convenience fees and administrative fees which shall be allocated on a pro rata basis using Cable Services revenue as a percentage of total subscriber revenues within the County;
  - revenues from program guides;
  - Franchise Fees;
  - FCC Regulatory Fees; and,

- commissions from home shopping channels and other Cable Service revenue sharing arrangements which shall be allocated on a pro rata basis using total Cable Service subscribers within the County.
- (A) "Advertising Revenues" shall mean revenues derived from sales of advertising that are made available to Grantee's Cable System subscribers within the County and shall be allocated on a pro rata basis using total Cable Service subscribers reached by the advertising. Additionally, Grantee agrees that Gross Revenues subject to franchise fees shall include all commissions, rep fees, Affiliated Entity fees, or rebates paid to National Cable Communications ("NCC") and Comcast Spotlight ("Spotlight") or their successors associated with sales of advertising on the Cable System within the County allocated according to this paragraph using total Cable Service subscribers reached by the advertising.

# (B) "Gross Revenues" shall not include:

- actual bad debt write-offs, except any portion which is subsequently collected which shall be allocated on a *pro rata* basis using Cable Services revenue as a percentage of total subscriber revenues within the County;
- any taxes and/or fees on services furnished by Grantee imposed by any municipality, state or other governmental unit, provided that Franchise Fees and the FCC regulatory fee shall not be regarded as such a tax or fee;
- fees imposed by any municipality, state or other governmental unit on Grantee including but not limited to Public, Educational and Governmental (PEG) Fees;
- launch fees and marketing co-op fees; and,
- unaffiliated third party advertising sales agency fees which are reflected as a deduction from revenues.
- (C) To the extent revenues are received by Grantee for the provision of a discounted bundle of services which includes Cable Services and non-Cable Services, Grantee shall calculate revenues to be included in Gross Revenues using a methodology that allocates revenue on a *pro rata* basis when comparing the bundled service price and its components to the sum of the published rate card, except as required by specific federal, state or local law, it is expressly understood that equipment may be subject to inclusion in the bundled price at full rate card value. This calculation shall be applied to every bundled service package containing Cable Service from which Grantee derives revenues in the County. The County reserves its right to review and to challenge Grantee's calculations.

- (D) Grantee reserves the right to change the allocation methodologies set forth in this Section 1.29 in order to meet the standards required by governing accounting principles as promulgated and defined by the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB"), Emerging Issues Task Force ("EITF") and/or the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC"). Grantee will explain and document the required changes to the County within three (3) months of making such changes, and as part of any audit or review of franchise fee payments, and any such changes shall be subject to 1.29(E) below.
- (E) Resolution of any disputes over the classification of revenue should first be attempted by agreement of the Parties, but should no resolution be reached, the Parties agree that reference shall be made to generally accepted accounting principles ("GAAP") as promulgated and defined by the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB"), Emerging Issues Task Force ("EITF") and/or the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC"). Notwithstanding the forgoing, the County reserves its right to challenge Grantee's calculation of Gross Revenues, including the interpretation of GAAP as promulgated and defined by the FASB, EITF and/or the SEC.
- 1.30 "Headend" means any facility for signal reception and dissemination on a Cable System, including cables, antennas, wires, satellite dishes, monitors, switchers, modulators, processors for Broadcast Signals, equipment for the Interconnection of the Cable System with adjacent Cable Systems and Interconnection of any networks which are part of the Cable System, and all other related equipment and facilities.
- 1.31 "<u>Leased Access Channel</u>" means any Channel or portion of a Channel commercially available for video programming by Persons other than Grantee, for a fee or charge.
- 1.32 "Manager" means the County Manager or designee.
- 1.33 "Person" means any individual, sole proprietorship, partnership, association, or corporation, or any other form of entity or organization.
- 1.34 "<u>Premium Service</u>" means programming choices (such as movie Channels, pay-per-view programs, or video on demand) offered to Subscribers on a per-Channel, per-program or per-event basis.
- 1.35 "<u>Residential Subscriber</u>" means any Person who receives Cable Service delivered to Dwelling Units or Multiple Dwelling Units, excluding such Multiple Dwelling Units billed on a bulk-billing basis.
- 1.36 "Right-of-Way" means each of the following which have been dedicated to the public or are hereafter dedicated to the public and maintained under public authority or by others and located within the County: streets, roadways, highways, avenues, lanes, alleys, bridges, sidewalks, easements, rights-of-way and similar public property and areas.

- 1.37 "State" means the State of Colorado.
- 1.38 "Subscriber" means any Person who or which elects to subscribe to, for any purpose, Cable Service provided by Grantee by means of or in connection with the Cable System and whose premises are physically wired and lawfully Activated to receive Cable Service from Grantee's Cable System, and who is in compliance with Grantee's regular and nondiscriminatory terms and conditions for receipt of service.
- 1.39 "Subscriber Network" means that portion of the Cable System used primarily by Grantee in the transmission of Cable Services to Residential Subscribers.
- 1.40 "<u>Telecommunications</u>" means the transmission, between or among points specified by the user, of information of the user's choosing, without change in the form or content of the information as sent and received (as provided in 47 U.S.C. Section 153(43)).
- 1.41 "<u>Telecommunications Service</u>" means the offering of Telecommunications for a fee directly to the public, or to such classes of users as to be effectively available directly to the public, regardless of the facilities used (as provided in 47 U.S.C. Section 153(46)).
- 1.42 "Tier" means a group of Channels for which a single periodic subscription fee is charged.
- 1.43 "<u>Two-Way</u>" means that the Cable System is capable of providing both Upstream and Downstream transmissions.
- 1.44 "<u>Upstream</u>" means carrying a transmission to the Headend from remote points on the Cable System or from Interconnection points on the Cable System.

#### (B) EXHIBITS

The following documents, which are occasionally referred to in this Franchise, are formally incorporated and made a part of this Franchise by this reference:

- 1) **Exhibit A**, entitled Customer Service Standards.
- 2) **Exhibit B**, entitled Report Form.

#### SECTION 2. GRANT OF FRANCHISE

#### 2.1 Grant

(A) The County hereby grants to Grantee a nonexclusive authorization to make reasonable and lawful use of the Rights-of-Way within the Franchise Area to construct, operate, maintain, reconstruct and rebuild a Cable System for the purpose of providing Cable Service subject to the terms and conditions set forth in this Franchise and in any prior utility or use

agreements entered into by Grantee with regard to any individual property. This Franchise shall constitute both a right and an obligation to provide the Cable Services required by, and to fulfill the obligations set forth in, the provisions of this Franchise.

- (B) Nothing in this Franchise shall be deemed to waive the lawful requirements of any generally applicable County ordinance existing as of the Effective Date, as defined in subsection 2.3.
- (C) Each and every term, provision or condition herein is subject to the provisions of State law, federal law, and the ordinances and regulations enacted pursuant thereto. The Code of the County, as the same may be amended from time to time, is hereby expressly incorporated into this Franchise as if fully set out herein by this reference. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the County may not unilaterally alter the material rights and obligations of Grantee under this Franchise.
- (D) This Franchise shall not be interpreted to prevent the County from imposing additional lawful conditions, including additional compensation conditions for use of the Rights-of-Way, should Grantee provide service other than Cable Service.
- (E) Grantee promises and guarantees, as a condition of exercising the privileges granted by this Franchise, that any Affiliate of the Grantee directly involved in the offering of Cable Service in the Franchise Area, or directly involved in the management or operation of the Cable System in the Franchise Area, will also comply with the obligations of this Franchise.
- (F) No rights shall pass to Grantee by implication. Without limiting the foregoing, by way of example and not limitation, this Franchise shall not include or be a substitute for:
  - (1) Any other permit or authorization required for the privilege of transacting and carrying on a business within the County that may be required by the ordinances and laws of the County;
  - (2) Any permit, agreement, or authorization required by the County for Right-of-Way users in connection with operations on or in Rights-of-Way or public property including, by way of example and not limitation, street cut permits; or
  - (3) Any permits or agreements for occupying any other property of the County or private entities to which access is not specifically granted by this Franchise including, without limitation, permits and agreements for placing devices on poles, in conduits or in or on other structures.
- (G) This Franchise is intended to convey limited rights and interests only as to those Rights-of-Way in which the County has an actual interest. It is not a warranty of title or interest in any Right-of-Way; it does not provide the Grantee with any interest in any particular location within the Right-of-Way; and it does not confer rights other than as expressly provided in the

grant hereof.

(H) This Franchise does not authorize Grantee to provide Telecommunications Service. This Franchise is not a bar to the provision of non-Cable Services, or to the imposition of any lawful conditions on Grantee with respect to Telecommunications. This Franchise does not relieve Grantee of any obligation it may have to obtain from the County an authorization to provide Telecommunications Services, or relieve Grantee of its obligation to comply with any such authorizations that may be lawfully required.

# 2.2 Use of Rights-of-Way

- (A) Subject to the County's supervision and control, Grantee may erect, install, construct, repair, replace, reconstruct, and retain in, on, over, under, upon, across, and along the Rights-of-Way within the Franchise Area such wires, cables, conductors, ducts, conduits, vaults, manholes, amplifiers, pedestals, attachments and other property and equipment as are necessary and appurtenant to the operation of a Cable System within the Franchise Area. Grantee, through this Franchise, is granted extensive and valuable rights to operate its Cable System for profit using the County's Rights-of-Way in compliance with all applicable County construction codes and procedures. As trustee for the public, the County is entitled to fair compensation as provided for in Section 3 of this Franchise to be paid for these valuable rights throughout the term of the Franchise.
- (B) Grantee must follow County established nondiscriminatory requirements for placement of Cable System facilities in Rights-of-Way, including the specific location of facilities in the Rights-of-Way, and must in any event install Cable System facilities in a manner that minimizes interference with the use of the Rights-of-Way by others, including others that may be installing communications facilities. Within limits reasonably related to the County's role in protecting public health, safety and welfare, the County may require that Cable System facilities be installed at a particular time, at a specific place or in a particular manner as a condition of access to a particular Right-of-Way; may deny access if Grantee is not willing to comply with County's requirements; and may remove, or require removal of, any facility that is not installed by Grantee in compliance with the requirements established by the County, or which is installed without prior County approval of the time, place or manner of installation, and charge Grantee for all the costs associated with removal; and may require Grantee to cooperate with others to minimize adverse impacts on the Rights-of-Way through joint trenching and other arrangements.

# 2.3 Effective Date and Term of Franchise

pro 1466.		his Franchise and the rights, privileges and authority granted hereunder sh , 2017 (the "Effective Date"), and shall terminate ond sooner as hereinafter provided.	hall take _, 2027 t	
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# 2.4 Franchise Nonexclusive

This Franchise shall be nonexclusive, and subject to all prior rights, interests, easements or licenses granted by the County to any Person to use any property, Right-of-Way, right, interest or license for any purpose whatsoever, including the right of the County to use same for any purpose it deems fit, including the same or similar purposes allowed Grantee hereunder. The County may at any time grant authorization to use the Rights-of-Way for any purpose not incompatible with Grantee's authority under this Franchise and for such additional franchises for Cable Systems as the County deems appropriate.

#### 2.5 Police Powers

Grantee's rights hereunder are subject to the police powers of the County to adopt and enforce ordinances necessary to the safety, health, and welfare of the public, and Grantee agrees to comply with all laws and ordinances of general applicability enacted, or hereafter enacted, by the County or any other legally constituted governmental unit having lawful jurisdiction over the subject matter hereof. The County shall have the right to adopt, from time to time, such ordinances as may be deemed necessary in the exercise of its police power; provided that such hereinafter enacted ordinances shall be reasonable and not materially modify the terms of this Franchise. Any conflict between the provisions of this Franchise and any other present or future lawful exercise of the County's police powers shall be resolved in favor of the latter.

# 2.6 Competitive Equity

(A) The Grantee acknowledges and agrees that the County reserves the right to grant one (1) or more additional franchises or other similar lawful authorization to provide Cable Services within the Franchise Area. If the County grants such an additional franchise or other similar lawful authorization containing material terms and conditions that differ from Grantee's material obligations under this Franchise, then the County agrees that the obligations in this Franchise will, pursuant to the process set forth in this Section, be amended to include any material terms or conditions that it imposes upon the new entrant, or provide relief from existing material terms or conditions, so as to insure that the regulatory and financial burdens on each entity are materially equivalent. "Material terms and conditions" include, but are not limited to: Franchise Fees and Gross Revenues; insurance; System build-out requirements; security instruments; complementary services; Public, Education and Government Access Channels and support; customer service standards; required reports and related record keeping; competitive equity (or its equivalent); audits; dispute resolution; remedies; and notice and opportunity to cure breaches. The parties agree that this provision shall not require a word for word identical franchise or authorization for a competitive entity so long as the regulatory and financial burdens on each entity are materially equivalent. Video programming services (as defined in the Cable Act) delivered over wireless broadband networks are specifically exempted from the requirements of this Section.

- (B) The modification process of this Franchise as provided for in Section 2.6 (A) shall only be initiated by written notice by the Grantee to the County regarding specified franchise obligations. Grantee's notice shall address the following: (1) identifying the specific terms or conditions in the competitive cable services franchise which are materially different from Grantee's obligations under this Franchise; (2) identifying the Franchise terms and conditions for which Grantee is seeking amendments; (3) providing text for any proposed Franchise amendments to the County, with a written explanation of why the proposed amendments are necessary and consistent.
- (C) Upon receipt of Grantee's written notice as provided in Section 2.6 (B), the County and Grantee agree that they will use best efforts in good faith to negotiate Grantee's proposed Franchise modifications, and that such negotiation will proceed and conclude within a ninety (90) day time period, unless that time period is reduced or extended by mutual agreement of the parties. If the County and Grantee reach agreement on the Franchise modifications pursuant to such negotiations, then the County shall amend this Franchise to include the modifications.
- (D) In the alternative to Franchise modification negotiations as provided for in Section 2.6 (C), or if the County and Grantee fail to reach agreement in such negotiations, Grantee may, at its option, elect to replace this Franchise by opting into the franchise or other similar lawful authorization that the County grants to another provider of Cable Services (with the understanding that Comcast will use its then-current system design and technology infrastructure to meet any requirements of the new franchise), so as to insure that the regulatory and financial burdens on each entity are equivalent. If Grantee so elects, the County shall immediately commence proceedings to replace this Franchise with the franchise issued to the other Cable Services provider.
- (E) Notwithstanding anything contained in this Section 2.6(A) through (D) to the contrary, the County shall not be obligated to amend or replace this Franchise unless the new entrant makes Cable Services available for purchase by Subscribers or customers under its franchise agreement with the County.
- (F) Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary, at any time that non-wireless facilities based entity, legally authorized by state or federal law, makes available for purchase by Subscribers or customers, Cable Services or multiple Channels of video programming within the Franchise Area without a franchise or other similar lawful authorization granted by the County, then:
  - (1) Grantee may negotiate with the County to seek Franchise modifications as per Section 2.6(C) above; or
    - (a) the term of Grantee's Franchise shall, upon ninety (90) days written notice from Grantee, be shortened so that the Franchise shall be deemed to expire on a date eighteen (18) months from the first day of the month following the date

of Grantee's notice; or,

(b) Grantee may assert, at Grantee's option, that this Franchise is rendered "commercially impracticable," and invoke the modification procedures set forth in Section 625 of the Cable Act.

# 2.7 Familiarity with Franchise

The Grantee acknowledges and warrants by acceptance of the rights, privileges and agreements granted herein, that it has carefully read and fully comprehends the terms and conditions of this Franchise and is willing to and does accept all lawful and reasonable risks of the meaning of the provisions, terms and conditions herein. The Grantee further acknowledges and states that it has fully studied and considered the requirements and provisions of this Franchise, and finds that the same are commercially practicable at this time, and consistent with all local, State and federal laws and regulations currently in effect, including the Cable Act.

# 2.8 Effect of Acceptance

By accepting the Franchise, the Grantee: (1) acknowledges and accepts the County's legal right to issue and enforce the Franchise; (2) accepts and agrees to comply with each and every provision of this Franchise subject to Applicable Law; and (3) agrees that the Franchise was granted pursuant to processes and procedures consistent with Applicable Law, and that it will not raise any claim to the contrary.

# SECTION 3. FRANCHISE FEE PAYMENT AND FINANCIAL CONTROLS

#### 3.1 Franchise Fee

As compensation for the benefits and privileges granted under this Franchise and in consideration of permission to use the County's Rights-of-Way, Grantee shall continue to pay as a Franchise Fee to the County, throughout the duration of and consistent with this Franchise, an amount equal to five percent (5%) of Grantee's Gross Revenues. Should the County grant additional franchise(s) to other wireline cable service provider(s), Grantee shall not be required to pay more than the franchise fee rate imposed by the other franchise agreement(s).

#### 3.2 Payments

Grantee's Franchise Fee payments to the County shall be computed quarterly for the preceding calendar quarter ending March 31, June 30, September 30, and December 31. Each quarterly payment shall be due and payable no later than forty-five (45) days after said dates.

# 3.3 Acceptance of Payment and Recomputation

No acceptance of any payment shall be construed as an accord by the County that the amount paid is, in fact, the correct amount, nor shall any acceptance of payments be construed as a release of any claim the County may have for further or additional sums payable or for the performance of any other obligation of Grantee.

# 3.4 Quarterly Franchise Fee Reports

Each payment shall be accompanied by a written report to the County, or concurrently sent under separate cover, verified by an authorized representative of Grantee, containing an accurate statement in summarized form, as well as in detail, of Grantee's Gross Revenues and the computation of the payment amount. Such reports shall detail all Gross Revenues of the Cable System.

#### 3.5 Annual Franchise Fee Reports

Grantee shall, within sixty (60) days after the end of each year, furnish to the County a statement stating the total amount of Gross Revenues for the year and all payments, deductions and computations for the period.

#### 3.6 Audits

On an annual basis, upon thirty (30) days prior written notice, the County, including the County's Auditor or his/her authorized representative, shall have the right to conduct an independent audit/review of Grantee's records reasonably related to the administration or enforcement of this Franchise. Pursuant to subsection 1.29, as part of the Franchise Fee audit/review the County shall specifically have the right to review relevant data related to the allocation of revenue to Cable Services in the event Grantee offers Cable Services bundled with non-Cable Services. For purposes of this section, "relevant data" shall include, at a minimum, Grantee's records, produced and maintained in the ordinary course of business, showing the subscriber counts per package and the revenue allocation per package for each package that was available for County subscribers during the audit period. To the extent that the County does not believe that the relevant data supplied is sufficient for the County to complete its audit/review, the County may require other relevant data. For purposes of this Section 3.6, the "other relevant data" shall generally mean all: (1) billing reports, (2) financial reports (such as General Ledgers) and (3) sample customer bills used by Grantee to determine Gross Revenues for the Franchise Area that would allow the County to recompute the Gross Revenue determination. If the audit/review shows that Franchise Fee payments have been underpaid by five percent (5%) or more (or such other contract underpayment threshold as set forth in a generally applicable and enforceable regulation or policy of the County related to audits), Grantee shall pay the total cost of the audit/review, such cost not to exceed five thousand dollars (\$5,000) for each year of the audit period. The County's right to audit/review and the Grantee's obligation to retain records related to this subsection shall expire three (3) years after each Franchise Fee payment has been

made to the County.

# 3.7 Late Payments

In the event any payment due quarterly is not received within forty-five (45) days from the end of the calendar quarter, Grantee shall pay interest on the amount due (at the prime rate as listed in the Wall Street Journal on the date the payment was due), compounded daily, calculated from the date the payment was originally due until the date the County receives the payment.

#### 3.8 Underpayments

If a net Franchise Fee underpayment is discovered as the result of an audit, Grantee shall pay interest at the rate of the eight percent (8%) per annum, compounded quarterly, calculated from the date each portion of the underpayment was originally due until the date Grantee remits the underpayment to the County.

# 3.9 Alternative Compensation

In the event the obligation of Grantee to compensate the County through Franchise Fee payments is lawfully suspended or eliminated, in whole or part, then Grantee shall pay to the County compensation equivalent to the compensation paid to the County by other similarly situated users of the County's Rights-of-Way for Grantee's use of the County's Rights-of-Way, provided that in no event shall such payments exceed the equivalent of five percent (5%) of Grantee's Gross Revenues (subject to the other provisions contained in this Franchise), to the extent consistent with Applicable Law.

# 3.10 Maximum Legal Compensation

The parties acknowledge that, at present, applicable federal law limits the County to collection of a maximum permissible Franchise Fee of five percent (5%) of Gross Revenues. In the event that at any time during the duration of this Franchise, the County is authorized to collect an amount in excess of five percent (5%) of Gross Revenues, then this Franchise may be amended unilaterally by the County to provide that such excess amount shall be added to the Franchise Fee payments to be paid by Grantee to the County hereunder, provided that Grantee has received at least ninety (90) days prior written notice from the County of such amendment, so long as all cable operators in the County are paying the same Franchise Fee amount.

# 3.11 Additional Commitments Not Franchise Fee Payments

No term or condition in this Franchise, including the funding required by Section 9, shall in any way modify or affect Grantee's obligation to pay Franchise Fees. Although the total sum of Franchise Fee payments and additional commitments set forth elsewhere in this Franchise may total more than five percent (5%) of Grantee's Gross Revenues in any twelve (12) month period, Grantee agrees that the additional commitments herein are not Franchise Fees as defined

under any federal law, nor are they to be offset or credited against any Franchise Fee payments due to the County, nor do they represent an increase in Franchise Fees; unless the additional commitments are specifically exempted from this Section 3.11.

# 3.12 Tax Liability

The Franchise Fees shall be in addition to any and all taxes or other levies or assessments which are now or hereafter required to be paid by businesses in general by any law of the County, the State or the United States including, without limitation, sales, use and other taxes, business license fees or other payments. Payment of the Franchise Fees under this Franchise shall not exempt Grantee from the payment of any other license fee, permit fee, tax or charge on the business, occupation, property or income of Grantee that may be lawfully imposed by the County. Any other license fees, taxes or charges shall be of general applicability in nature and shall not be levied against Grantee solely because of its status as a Cable Operator, or against Subscribers, solely because of their status as such.

#### 3.13 Financial Records

Grantee agrees to meet with a representative of the County upon request to review Grantee's methodology of record-keeping, financial reporting, the computing of Franchise Fee obligations and other procedures, the understanding of which the County deems necessary for reviewing reports and records.

# 3.14 Payment on Termination

If this Franchise terminates for any reason, the Grantee shall file with the County within ninety (90) calendar days of the date of the termination, a financial statement, certified by an independent certified public accountant, showing the Gross Revenues received by the Grantee since the end of the previous fiscal year. The County reserves the right to satisfy any remaining financial obligations of the Grantee to the County by utilizing the funds available in the letter of credit or other security provided by the Grantee.

# SECTION 4. ADMINISTRATION AND REGULATION

### 4.1 Authority

- (A) The County shall be vested with the power and right to reasonably regulate the exercise of the privileges permitted by this Franchise in the public interest, or to delegate that power and right, or any part thereof, to the extent permitted under Federal, State and local law, to any agent including, but not limited to, the CCUA, in its sole discretion.
- (B) Nothing in this Franchise shall limit nor expand the County's right of eminent domain under State law.

# 4.2 Rates and Charges

All of Grantee's rates and charges related to or regarding Cable Services shall be subject to regulation by the County to the full extent authorized by applicable federal, State and local laws.

#### 4.3 Rate Discrimination

All of Grantee's rates and charges shall be published (in the form of a publicly-available rate card) and be non-discriminatory as to all Persons and organizations of similar classes, under similar circumstances and conditions. Grantee shall apply its rates in accordance with Applicable Law, with identical rates and charges for all Subscribers receiving identical Cable Services, without regard to race, color, ethnic or national origin, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, marital, military or economic status, or physical or mental disability or geographic location within the County. Grantee shall offer the same Cable Services to all Residential Subscribers at identical rates to the extent required by Applicable Law and to Multiple Dwelling Unit Subscribers to the extent authorized by FCC rules or applicable Federal law. Grantee shall permit Subscribers to make any lawful in-residence connections the Subscriber chooses without additional charge nor penalizing the Subscriber therefor. However, if any in-home connection requires service from Grantee due to signal quality, signal leakage or other factors, caused by improper installation of such in-home wiring or faulty materials of such in-home wiring, the Subscriber may be charged reasonable service charges by Grantee. Nothing herein shall be construed to prohibit:

- (A) The temporary reduction or waiving of rates or charges in conjunction with valid promotional campaigns; or,
- (B) The offering of reasonable discounts to senior citizens or economically disadvantaged citizens; or,
  - (C) The offering of rate discounts for Cable Service; or,
- (D) The Grantee from establishing different and nondiscriminatory rates and charges and classes of service for Commercial Subscribers, as allowable by federal law and regulations.

# 4.4 Filing of Rates and Charges

(A) Throughout the term of this Franchise, Grantee shall maintain on file with the County a complete schedule of applicable rates and charges for Cable Services provided under this Franchise. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to require Grantee to file rates and charges under temporary reductions or waivers of rates and charges in conjunction with promotional campaigns.

(B) Upon request of the County, Grantee shall provide a complete schedule of current rates and charges for any and all Leased Access Channels, or portions of such Channels, provided by Grantee. The schedule shall include a description of the price, terms, and conditions established by Grantee for Leased Access Channels.

#### 4.5 Cross Subsidization

Grantee shall comply with all Applicable Laws regarding rates for Cable Services and all Applicable Laws covering issues of cross subsidization.

#### 4.6 Reserved Authority

Both Grantee and the County reserve all rights they may have under the Cable Act and any other relevant provisions of federal, State, or local law.

#### 4.7 Franchise Amendment Procedure

Either party may at any time seek an amendment of this Franchise by so notifying the other party in writing. Within thirty (30) days of receipt of notice, the County and Grantee shall meet to discuss the proposed amendment(s). If the parties reach a mutual agreement upon the suggested amendment(s), such amendment(s) shall be submitted to the Board of County Commissioners for its approval. If so approved by the Board of County Commissioners and the Grantee, then such amendment(s) shall be deemed part of this Franchise. If mutual agreement is not reached, there shall be no amendment.

#### 4.8 Performance Evaluations

- (A) The County may hold performance evaluation sessions upon ninety (90) days written notice, provided that such evaluation sessions shall be held no more frequently than once every two (2) years. All such evaluation sessions shall be conducted by the County.
- (B) Special evaluation sessions may be held at any time by the County during the term of this Franchise, upon ninety (90) days written notice to Grantee.
- (C) All regular evaluation sessions shall be open to the public and announced at least two (2) weeks in advance in any manner within the discretion of the County. Grantee shall also include with or on the Subscriber billing statements for the billing period immediately preceding the commencement of the session, written notification of the date, time, and place of the regular performance evaluation session, and any special evaluation session as required by the County, provided Grantee receives appropriate advance notice.
- (D) Topics which may be discussed at any evaluation session may include, but are not limited to, Cable Service rate structures; Franchise Fee payments; liquidated damages; free or discounted Cable Services; application of new technologies; Cable System performance; Cable

Services provided; programming offered; Subscriber complaints; privacy; amendments to this Franchise; judicial and FCC rulings; line extension policies; and the County or Grantee's rules; provided that nothing in this subsection shall be construed as requiring the renegotiation of this Franchise.

(E) During evaluations under this subsection, Grantee shall fully cooperate with the County and shall provide such information and documents as the County may reasonably require to perform the evaluation.

#### 4.9 Late Fees

- (A) For purposes of this subsection, any assessment, charge, cost, fee or sum, however characterized, that the Grantee imposes upon a Subscriber solely for late payment of a bill is a late fee and shall be applied in accordance with the County's Customer Service Standards, as the same may be amended from time to time by the Board acting by ordinance or resolution, or as the same may be superseded by legislation or final court order.
- (B) Nothing in this subsection shall be deemed to create, limit or otherwise affect the ability of the Grantee, if any, to impose other assessments, charges, fees or sums other than those permitted by this subsection, for the Grantee's other services or activities it performs in compliance with Applicable Law, including FCC law, rule or regulation.
- (C) The Grantee's late fee and disconnection policies and practices shall be nondiscriminatory and such policies and practices, and any fees imposed pursuant to this subsection, shall apply equally in all parts of the County without regard to the neighborhood or income level of the Subscriber.

#### 4.10 Force Majeure

In the event Grantee is prevented or delayed in the performance of any of its obligations under this Franchise by reason beyond the control of Grantee, Grantee shall have a reasonable time, under the circumstances, to perform the affected obligation under this Franchise or to procure a substitute for such obligation which is satisfactory to the County. Those conditions which are not within the control of Grantee include, but are not limited to, natural disasters, civil disturbances, work stoppages or labor disputes, power outages, telephone network outages, and severe or unusual weather conditions which have a direct and substantial impact on the Grantee's ability to provide Cable Services in the County and which was not caused and could not have been avoided by the Grantee which used its best efforts in its operations to avoid such results.

If Grantee believes that a reason beyond its control has prevented or delayed its compliance with the terms of this Franchise, Grantee shall provide documentation as reasonably required by the County to substantiate the Grantee's claim. If Grantee has not yet cured the deficiency, Grantee shall also provide the County with its proposed plan for remediation, including the timing for such cure.

# SECTION 5. FINANCIAL AND INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS

#### 5.1 Indemnification

- (A) General Indemnification. Grantee shall indemnify, defend and hold the County, its officers, officials, boards, commissions, agents and employees, harmless from any action or claim for injury, damage, loss, liability, cost or expense, including court and appeal costs and reasonable attorneys' fees or reasonable expenses, arising from any casualty or accident to Person or property, including, without limitation, copyright infringement, defamation, and all other damages in any way arising out of, or by reason of, any construction, excavation, operation, maintenance, reconstruction, or any other act done under this Franchise, by or for Grantee, its agents, or its employees, or by reason of any neglect or omission of Grantee. Grantee shall consult and cooperate with the County while conducting its defense of the County. Grantee shall not be obligated to indemnify the County to the extent of the County's sole negligence or willful misconduct.
- (B) <u>Indemnification for Relocation</u>. Grantee shall indemnify the County for any damages, claims, additional costs or reasonable expenses assessed against, or payable by, the County arising out of, or resulting from, directly or indirectly, Grantee's failure to remove, adjust or relocate any of its facilities in the Rights-of-Way in a timely manner in accordance with any relocation required by the County.
- (C) <u>Additional Circumstances</u>. Grantee shall also indemnify, defend and hold the County harmless for any claim for injury, damage, loss, liability, cost or expense, including court and appeal costs and reasonable attorneys' fees or reasonable expenses in any way arising out of:
  - (1) The lawful actions of the County in granting this Franchise to the extent such actions are consistent with this Franchise and Applicable Law.
  - (2) Damages arising out of any failure by Grantee to secure consents from the owners, authorized distributors, or licensees/licensors of programs to be delivered by the Cable System, whether or not any act or omission complained of is authorized, allowed or prohibited by this Franchise.
- (D) Procedures and Defense. If a claim or action arises, the County or any other indemnified party shall promptly tender the defense of the claim to Grantee, which defense shall be at Grantee's expense. The County may participate in the defense of a claim, but if Grantee provides a defense at Grantee's expense then Grantee shall not be liable for any attorneys' fees, expenses or other costs that County may incur if it chooses to participate in the defense of a claim, unless and until separate representation as described below in Paragraph 5.1(F) is required. In that event the provisions of Paragraph 5.1(F) shall govern Grantee's responsibility for County's attorney's fees, expenses or other costs. In any event, Grantee may not agree to any settlement of claims affecting the County without the County's approval.

- (E) <u>Non-waiver</u>. The fact that Grantee carries out any activities under this Franchise through independent contractors shall not constitute an avoidance of or defense to Grantee's duty of defense and indemnification under this subsection.
- (F) Expenses. If separate representation to fully protect the interests of both parties is or becomes necessary, such as a conflict of interest between the County and the counsel selected by Grantee to represent the County, Grantee shall pay, from the date such separate representation is required forward, all reasonable expenses incurred by the County in defending itself with regard to any action, suit or proceeding indemnified by Grantee. Provided, however, that in the event that such separate representation is or becomes necessary, and County desires to hire counsel or any other outside experts or consultants and desires Grantee to pay those expenses, then County shall be required to obtain Grantee's consent to the engagement of such counsel, experts or consultants, such consent not to be unreasonably withheld. The County's expenses shall include all reasonable out-of-pocket expenses, such as consultants' fees, and shall also include the reasonable value of any services rendered by the County Attorney or his/her assistants or any employees of the County or its agents but shall not include outside attorneys' fees for services that are unnecessarily duplicative of services provided the County by Grantee.

#### 5.2 Insurance

- (A) Grantee shall maintain in full force and effect at its own cost and expense each of the following policies of insurance:
  - (1) Commercial General Liability insurance with limits of no less than one million dollars (\$1,000,000.00) per occurrence and three million dollars (\$3,000,000.00) general aggregate. Coverage shall be at least as broad as that provided by ISO CG 00 01 04 13 or its equivalent and include severability of interests. Such insurance shall name the County, its officers, officials and employees as additional insureds. There shall be a waiver of subrogation and rights of recovery against the County, its officers, officials and employees. Coverage shall apply as to claims between insureds on the policy, if applicable.
  - (2) Commercial Automobile Liability insurance with minimum combined single limits of two million dollars (\$2,000,000.00) each occurrence with respect to each of Grantee's owned, hired and non-owned vehicles assigned to or used in the operation of the Cable System in the County. The policy shall contain a severability of interests provision.
- (B) The insurance shall not be canceled or materially changed so as to be out of compliance with these requirements without thirty (30) days' written notice first provided to the County, via certified mail, and ten (10) days' notice for nonpayment of premium. If the insurance is canceled or materially altered so as to be out of compliance with the requirements of this subsection within the term of this Franchise, Grantee shall provide a replacement policy. Grantee agrees to maintain continuous uninterrupted insurance coverage, in at least the amounts

required, for the duration of this Franchise and, in the case of the Commercial General Liability, for at least one (1) year after expiration of this Franchise.

# 5.3 Deductibles / Certificate of Insurance

Any deductible of the policies shall not in any way limit Grantee's liability to the County.

#### (A) Endorsements.

- (1) All policies shall contain, or shall be endorsed so that:
- (a) The County, its officers, officials, boards, commissions, employees and agents are to be covered as, and have the rights of, additional insureds with respect to liability arising out of activities performed by, or on behalf of, Grantee under this Franchise or Applicable Law, or in the construction, operation or repair, or ownership of the Cable System;
- (b) Grantee's insurance coverage shall be primary insurance with respect to the County, its officers, officials, boards, commissions, employees and agents. Any insurance or self-insurance maintained by the County, its officers, officials, boards, commissions, employees and agents shall be in excess of the Grantee's insurance and shall not contribute to it; and
- (c) Grantee's insurance shall apply separately to each insured against whom a claim is made or lawsuit is brought, except with respect to the limits of the insurer's liability.
- (B) <u>Acceptability of Insurers</u>. The insurance obtained by Grantee shall be placed with insurers with a Best's rating of no less than "A VII."
- (C) <u>Verification of Coverage</u>. The Grantee shall furnish the County with certificates of insurance and endorsements or a copy of the page of the policy reflecting blanket additional insured status. The certificates and endorsements for each insurance policy are to be signed by a Person authorized by that insurer to bind coverage on its behalf. The certificates and endorsements for each insurance policy are to be on standard forms or such forms as are consistent with standard industry practices.
- (D) <u>Self-Insurance</u> In the alternative to providing a certificate of insurance to the County certifying insurance coverage as required above, Grantee may provide self-insurance in the same amount and level of protection for Grantee and County, its officers, agents and employees as otherwise required under this Section. The adequacy of self-insurance shall be subject to the periodic review and approval of the County.

#### 5.4 Letter of Credit

- (A) If there is a claim by the County of an uncured breach by Grantee of a material provision of this Franchise or pattern of repeated violations of any provision(s) of this Franchise, then the County may require and Grantee shall establish and provide within thirty (30) days from receiving notice from the County, to the County as security for the faithful performance by Grantee of all of the provisions of this Franchise, a letter of credit from a financial institution satisfactory to the County in the amount of twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000).
- (B) In the event that Grantee establishes a letter of credit pursuant to the procedures of this Section, then the letter of credit shall be maintained at twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) until the allegations of the uncured breach have been resolved.
- (C) As an alternative to the provision of a Letter of Credit to the County as set forth in Subsections 5.4 (A) and (B) above, if the County is a member of CCUA, and if Grantee provides a Letter of Credit to CCUA in an amount agreed to between Grantee and CCUA for the benefit of its members, in order to collectively address claims reference in 5.4 (A), Grantee shall not be required to provide a separate Letter of Credit to the County.
- (D) After completion of the procedures set forth in Section 13.1 or other applicable provisions of this Franchise, the letter of credit may be drawn upon by the County for purposes including, but not limited to, the following:
  - (1) Failure of Grantee to pay the County sums due under the terms of this Franchise;
  - (2) Reimbursement of costs borne by the County to correct Franchise violations not corrected by Grantee;
  - (3) Monetary remedies or damages assessed against Grantee due to default or breach of Franchise requirements; and,
  - (4) Failure to comply with the Customer Service Standards of the County, as the same may be amended from time to time by the Board acting by ordinance or resolution.
- (E) The County shall give Grantee written notice of any withdrawal under this subsection upon such withdrawal. Within seven (7) days following receipt of such notice, Grantee shall restore the letter of credit to the amount required under this Franchise.
- (F) Grantee shall have the right to appeal to the Board for reimbursement in the event Grantee believes that the letter of credit was drawn upon improperly. Grantee shall also have the right of judicial appeal if Grantee believes the letter of credit has not been properly drawn upon in accordance with this Franchise. Any funds the County erroneously or wrongfully withdraws

from the letter of credit shall be returned to Grantee with interest, from the date of withdrawal at a rate equal to the prime rate of interest as quoted in the Wall Street Journal.

# **SECTION 6. CUSTOMER SERVICE**

#### 6.1 Customer Service Standards

Grantee shall comply with Customer Service Standards of the County, as the same may be amended from time to time by the Board in its sole discretion, acting by ordinance. Any requirement in Customer Service Standards for a "local" telephone number may be met by the provision of a toll-free number. The Customer Services Standards in effect as of the Effective Date of this Franchise are attached as Exhibit A. Grantee reserves the right to challenge any customer service ordinance that it believes is inconsistent with its contractual rights under this Franchise.

# 6.2 Subscriber Privacy

Grantee shall fully comply with any provisions regarding the privacy rights of Subscribers contained in federal, State, or local law.

#### 6.3 Subscriber Contracts

Grantee shall not enter into a contract with any Subscriber that is in any way inconsistent with the terms of this Franchise, or any Exhibit hereto, or the requirements of any applicable Customer Service Standard. Upon request, Grantee will provide to the County a sample of the Subscriber contract or service agreement then in use.

# 6.4 Advance Notice to County

The Grantee shall use reasonable efforts to furnish information provided to Subscribers or the media in the normal course of business to the County in advance.

# 6.5 Identification of Local Franchise Authority on Subscriber Bills

Within sixty (60) days after written request from the County, Grantee shall place the County's phone number on its Subscriber bills, to identify where a Subscriber may call to address escalated complaints.

# **SECTION 7. REPORTS AND RECORDS**

#### 7.1 Open Records

Grantee shall manage all of its operations in accordance with a policy of keeping its documents and records open and accessible to the County. The County, including the County's

Auditor or his/her authorized representative, shall have access to, and the right to inspect, any books and records of Grantee, its parent corporations and Affiliates which are reasonably related to the administration or enforcement of the terms of this Franchise. Grantee shall not deny the County access to any of Grantee's records on the basis that Grantee's records are under the control of any parent corporation, Affiliate or a third party. The County may, in writing, request copies of any such records or books and Grantee shall provide such copies within thirty (30) days of the transmittal of such request. One (1) copy of all reports and records required under this or any other subsection shall be furnished to the County, at the sole expense of Grantee. If the requested books and records are too voluminous, or for security reasons cannot be copied or removed, then Grantee may request, in writing within ten (10) days, that the County inspect them at Grantee's local offices. If any books or records of Grantee are not kept in a local office and not made available in copies to the County upon written request as set forth above, and if the County determines that an examination of such records is necessary or appropriate for the performance of any of the County's duties, administration or enforcement of this Franchise, then all reasonable travel and related expenses incurred in making such examination shall be paid by Grantee.

### 7.2 Confidentiality

The County agrees to treat as confidential any books or records that constitute proprietary or confidential information under federal or State law, to the extent Grantee makes the County aware of such confidentiality. Grantee shall be responsible for clearly and conspicuously stamping the word "Confidential" on each page that contains confidential or proprietary information, and shall provide a brief written explanation as to why such information is confidential under State or federal law. If the County believes it must release any such confidential books and records in the course of enforcing this Franchise, or for any other reason. it shall advise Grantee in advance so that Grantee may take appropriate steps to protect its interests. If the County receives a demand from any Person for disclosure of any information designated by Grantee as confidential, the County shall, so far as consistent with Applicable Law, advise Grantee and provide Grantee with a copy of any written request by the party demanding access to such information within a reasonable time. Until otherwise ordered by a court or agency of competent jurisdiction, the County agrees that, to the extent permitted by State and federal law, it shall deny access to any of Grantee's books and records marked confidential as set forth above to any Person. Grantee shall reimburse the County for all reasonable costs and attorneys fees incurred in any legal proceedings pursued under this Section.

#### 7.3 Records Required

- (A) Grantee shall at all times maintain, and shall furnish to the County upon 30 days written request and subject to Applicable Law:
  - (1) A complete set of maps showing the exact location of all Cable System equipment and facilities in the Right-of-Way, but excluding detail on proprietary electronics contained therein and Subscriber drops. As-built maps including proprietary

electronics shall be available at Grantee's offices for inspection by the County's authorized representative(s) or agent(s) and made available to such during the course of technical inspections as reasonably conducted by the County. These maps shall be certified as accurate by an appropriate representative of the Grantee;

- (2) A copy of all FCC filings on behalf of Grantee, its parent corporations or Affiliates which relate to the operation of the Cable System in the County;
  - (3) Current Subscriber Records and information;
- (4) A log of Cable Services added or dropped, Channel changes, number of Subscribers added or terminated, all construction activity, and total homes passed for the previous twelve (12) months; and
  - (5) A list of Cable Services, rates and Channel line-ups.
- (B) Subject to subsection 7.2, all information furnished to the County is public information, and shall be treated as such, except for information involving the privacy rights of individual Subscribers.

#### 7.4 Annual Reports

Within sixty (60) days of the County's written request, Grantee shall submit to the County a confidential written report subject to the provisions of Section 7.2, in a form acceptable to the County, which shall include, but not necessarily be limited to, the following information for the County:

- (A) A Gross Revenue statement, as required by subsection 3.5 of this Franchise;
- (B) A summary of the previous year's activities in the development of the Cable System, including, but not limited to, Cable Services begun or discontinued during the reporting year, and the number of Subscribers for each class of Cable Service (*i.e.*, Basic, Digital Starter, and Premium);
- (C) The number of homes passed, beginning and ending plant miles, any services added or dropped, and any technological changes occurring in the Cable System;
  - (D) A statement of planned construction, if any, for the next year; and,
- (E) A copy of the most recent annual report Grantee filed with the SEC or other governing body.

The parties agree that the County's request for these annual reports shall remain effective, and need only be made once. Such a request shall require the Grantee to continue to provide the reports annually, until further written notice from the County to the contrary.

# 7.5 Copies of Federal and State Reports

Within thirty (30) days of a written request, Grantee shall submit to the County copies of all pleadings, applications, notifications, communications and documents of any kind, submitted by Grantee or its parent corporation(s), to any federal, State or local courts, regulatory agencies and other government bodies if such documents directly relate to the operations of Grantee's Cable System within the County. Grantee shall not claim confidential, privileged or proprietary rights to such documents unless under federal, State, or local law such documents have been determined to be confidential by a court of competent jurisdiction, or a federal or State agency.

#### 7.6 Complaint File and Reports

- (A) Grantee shall keep an accurate and comprehensive file of any complaints regarding the Cable System, in a manner consistent with the privacy rights of Subscribers, and Grantee's actions in response to those complaints. These files shall remain available for viewing to the County during normal business hours at Grantee's local business office.
- (B) Within thirty (30) days of a written request, Grantee shall provide the County a quarterly executive summary in the form attached hereto as Exhibit B, which shall include the following information from the preceding quarter:
- (1) A summary of service calls, identifying the number and nature of the requests and their disposition;
  - (2) A log of all service interruptions;
- (3) A summary of customer complaints referred by the County to Grantee; and,
  - (4) Such other information as reasonably requested by the County.

The parties agree that the County's request for these summary reports shall remain effective, and need only be made once. Such a request shall require the Grantee to continue to provide the reports quarterly, until further written notice from the County to the contrary.

#### 7.7 Failure to Report

The failure or neglect of Grantee to file any of the reports or filings required under this Franchise or such other reports as the County may reasonably request (not including clerical errors or errors made in good faith), may, at the County's option, be deemed a breach of this

Franchise.

#### 7.8 False Statements

Any false or misleading statement or representation in any report required by this Franchise (not including clerical errors or errors made in good faith) may be deemed a material breach of this Franchise and may subject Grantee to all remedies, legal or equitable, which are available to the County under this Franchise or otherwise.

#### **SECTION 8. PROGRAMMING**

#### 8.1 Broad Programming Categories

Grantee shall provide or enable the provision of at least the following initial broad categories of programming to the extent such categories are reasonably available:

- (A) Educational programming;
- (B) Colorado news, weather & information;
- (C) Sports;
- (D) General entertainment (including movies);
- (E) Children/family-oriented;
- (F) Arts, culture and performing arts;
- (G) Foreign language;
- (H) Science/documentary;
- (I) National news, weather and information; and,
- (J) Public, Educational and Government Access, to the extent required by this Franchise.

# 8.2 Deletion or Reduction of Broad Programming Categories

- (A) Grantee shall not delete or so limit as to effectively delete any broad category of programming within its control without the prior written consent of the County.
- (B) In the event of a modification proceeding under federal law, the mix and quality of Cable Services provided by Grantee on the Effective Date of this Franchise shall be deemed

the mix and quality of Cable Services required under this Franchise throughout its term.

#### 8.3 Obscenity

Grantee shall not transmit, or permit to be transmitted over any Channel subject to its editorial control, any programming which is obscene under, or violates any provision of, Applicable Law relating to obscenity, and is not protected by the Constitution of the United States. Grantee shall be deemed to have transmitted or permitted a transmission of obscene programming only if a court of competent jurisdiction has found that any of Grantee's officers or employees or agents have permitted programming which is obscene under, or violative of, any provision of Applicable Law relating to obscenity, and is otherwise not protected by the Constitution of the United States, to be transmitted over any Channel subject to Grantee's editorial control. Grantee shall comply with all relevant provisions of federal law relating to obscenity.

#### 8.4 Parental Control Device

Upon request by any Subscriber, Grantee shall make available a parental control or lockout device, traps or filters to enable a Subscriber to control access to both the audio and video portions of any or all Channels. Grantee shall inform its Subscribers of the availability of the lockout device at the time of their initial subscription and periodically thereafter. Any device offered shall be at a rate, if any, in compliance with Applicable Law.

#### 8.5 Continuity of Service Mandatory

- (A) It shall be the right of all Subscribers to continue to receive Cable Service from Grantee insofar as their financial and other obligations to Grantee are honored. The Grantee shall act so as to ensure that all Subscribers receive continuous, uninterrupted Cable Service regardless of the circumstances. For the purposes of this subsection, "uninterrupted" does not include short-term outages of the Cable System for maintenance or testing.
- (B) In the event of a change of grantee, or in the event a new Cable Operator acquires the Cable System in accordance with this Franchise, Grantee shall cooperate with the County, new franchisee or Cable Operator in maintaining continuity of Cable Service to all Subscribers. During any transition period, Grantee shall be entitled to the revenues for any period during which it operates the Cable System, and shall be entitled to reasonable costs for its services when it no longer operates the Cable System.
- (C) In the event Grantee fails to operate the Cable System for four (4) consecutive days without prior approval of the Manager, or without just cause, the County may, at its option, operate the Cable System itself or designate another Cable Operator until such time as Grantee restores service under conditions acceptable to the County or a permanent Cable Operator is selected. If the County is required to fulfill this obligation for Grantee, Grantee shall reimburse the County for all reasonable costs or damages that are the result of Grantee's failure to perform.

#### 8.6 Services for the Disabled

Grantee shall comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act and any amendments thereto.

#### **SECTION 9. ACCESS**

#### 9.1 Designated Access Providers

- (A) The County shall have the sole and exclusive responsibility for identifying the Designated Access Providers, including itself for Access purposes, to control and manage the use of any or all Access Facilities provided by Grantee under this Franchise. As used in this Section, such "Access Facilities" includes the Channels, services, facilities, equipment, technical components and/or financial support provided under this Franchise, which is used or useable by and for Public Access, Educational Access, and Government Access ("PEG" or "PEG Access").
- (B) Grantee shall cooperate with County in County's efforts to provide Access programming, but will not be responsible or liable for any damages resulting from a claim in connection with the programming placed on the Access Channels by the Designated Access Provider.

#### 9.2 Channel Capacity and Use

- (A) Grantee shall make available to County up to five (5) Downstream Channels for PEG use as provided for in this Section.
- Grantee shall have the right to temporarily use any Channel, or portion thereof, which is allocated under this Section for Public, Educational, or Governmental Access use, within sixty (60) days after a written request for such use is submitted to County, if such Channel is not "fully utilized" as defined herein. A Channel shall be considered fully utilized if substantially unduplicated programming is delivered over it more than an average of 38 hours per week over a six (6) month period. Programming that is repeated on an Access Channel up to two times per day shall be considered "unduplicated programming." Character-generated programming shall be included for purposes of this subsection, but may be counted towards the total average hours only with respect to one (1) Channels provided to County. If a Channel allocated for Public, Educational, or Governmental Access use will be used by Grantee in accordance with the terms of this subsection, the institution to which the Channel has been allocated shall have the right to require the return of the Channel or portion thereof. County shall request return of such Channel space by delivering written notice to Grantee stating that the institution is prepared to fully utilize the Channel, or portion thereof, in accordance with this subsection. In such event, the Channel or portion thereof shall be returned to such institution within sixty (60) days after receipt by Grantee of such written notice.
  - (C) Standard Definition ("SD") Digital Access Channels.

- (1) Grantee shall provide up to three (3) Activated Downstream Channels for PEG Access use in a standard definition ("SD") digital format in Grantee's Basic Service ("SD Access Channel"). After the fifth anniversary of the Effective Date, and upon one hundred eighty (180) days written notice from Grantor, Grantee shall activate the third and final SD Access Channel. Grantee shall carry all components of the SD Access Channel Signals provided by a Designated Access Provider including, but not limited to, closed captioning, stereo audio and other elements associated with the Programming. A Designated Access Provider shall be responsible for providing the SD Access Channel Signal in an SD format to the demarcation point at the designated point of origination for the SD Access Channel. Grantee shall transport and distribute the SD Access Channel signal on its Cable System and shall not unreasonably discriminate against SD Access Channels with respect to accessibility, functionality and to the application of any applicable Federal Communications Commission Rules & Regulations, including without limitation Subpart K Channel signal standards.
- (2) With respect to signal quality, Grantee shall not be required to carry a SD Access Channel in a higher quality format than that of the SD Access Channel signal delivered to Grantee, but Grantee shall distribute the SD Access Channel signal without degradation. Upon reasonable written request by a Designated Access Provider, Grantee shall verify signal delivery to Subscribers with the Designated Access Provider, consistent with the requirements of this Section 9.2(C).
- (3) Grantee shall be responsible for costs associated with the transmission of SD Access signals on its side of the demarcation point which for the purposes of this Section 9.2 (C)(3), shall mean up to and including the modulator where the County signal is converted into a format to be transmitted over a fiber connection to Grantee. The County or Designated Access Provider shall be responsible for costs associated with SD Access signal transmission on its side of the demarcation point.
- (4) SD Access Channels may require Subscribers to buy or lease special equipment, available to all Subscribers, and subscribe to those tiers of Cable Service, upon which SD channels are made available. Grantee is not required to provide free SD equipment to Subscribers, including complimentary government and educational accounts, nor modify its equipment or pricing policies in any manner.
- (D) High Definition ("HD") Digital Access Channels.
- (1) After the second anniversary of the Effective Date, and upon one hundred twenty (120) days written notice from Grantor, Grantee shall activate one (1) HD Access Channel, for which the County or its Designated Access Provider may provide Access Channel signals in HD format to the demarcation point at the designated point of origination for the Access Channel. Activation of such HD Access Channels shall only occur after the following conditions are satisfied:

- (a) The County shall, in its written notice to Grantee as provided for in this Section, confirm that it or its Designated Access Provider has the capabilities to produce, has been producing and will produce programming in an HD format for the newly activated HD Access Channel(s); and,
- (b) There will be a minimum of five (5) hours per-day, five days per-week of HD PEG programming available for each HD Access Channel. For the purposes of this subsection, character-generated programming (i.e., community bulletin boards) shall not satisfy, in whole or in part, this programming requirement.
- After the second anniversary of the Effective Date and after the activation of the first HD Access Channel as described above in Section 9.2(D)(1), the County and Grantee may meet no more than three times prior to the expiration of this Franchise to discuss in good faith whether the County may request, and Grantee shall provide on its Cable System, one (1) additional Activated Downstream Channel for PEG Access use in a High Definition ("HD") digital format ("HD Access Channel or Channels"). Activation of such HD Access Channels shall only occur after one hundred twenty (120) days written notice from Grantor and after the following conditions are satisfied:
  - (a) The County shall, in its written notice to Grantee as provided for in this Section, confirm that it or its Designated Access Provider has the capabilities to produce, has been producing and will produce programming in an HD format for the newly activated HD Access Channel(s); and,
  - (b) There will be a minimum of five (5) hours per-day, five days per-week of HD PEG programming available for each HD Access Channel. For the purposes of this subsection, character-generated programming (i.e., community bulletin boards) shall not satisfy, in whole or in part, this programming requirement.
- (3) The County or its Designated Access Provider shall be responsible for providing the HD Access Channel signal in an HD digital format to the demarcation point at the designated point of origination for the HD Access Channel. For purposes of this Franchise, an HD signal refers to a television signal delivering picture resolution of either 720p or 1080i, or such other resolution in this same range that Grantee utilizes for other similar non-sport, non-movie programming channels on the Cable System, whichever is greater.
- (4) Grantee shall transport and distribute the HD Access Channel signal on its Cable System and shall not unreasonably discriminate against HD Access Channels with respect to accessibility, functionality and to the application of any applicable Federal Communications Commission Rules & Regulations, including without limitation Subpart K Channel signal standards. With respect to signal quality, Grantee shall not be required to carry a HD Access Channel in a higher quality format than that of the HD Access Channel signal delivered to Grantee, but Grantee shall distribute the HD Access Channel

signal without degradation. Grantee shall carry all components of the HD Access Channel signals provided by the Designated Access Provider including, but not limited to, closed captioning, stereo audio and other elements associated with the Programming. Upon reasonable written request by the County, Grantee shall verify signal delivery to Subscribers with the County, consistent with the requirements of this Section 9.2(D).

- (5) HD Access Channels may require Subscribers to buy or lease special equipment, available to all Subscribers, and subscribe to those tiers of Cable Service, upon which HD channels are made available. Grantee is not required to provide free HD equipment to Subscribers, including complimentary government and educational accounts, nor modify its equipment or pricing policies in any manner.
- (6) The County or any Designated Access Provider is responsible for acquiring all equipment necessary to produce programming in HD.
- Grantee shall cooperate with the County to procure and provide, at County's or its Designated Access Provider's cost, all necessary transmission equipment from the Designated Access Provider channel origination point, at Grantee's headend and through Grantee's distribution system, in order to deliver the HD Access Channels. The County or its Designated Access Provider shall be responsible for the costs of all transmission equipment, including HD modulator and demodulator, and encoder or decoder equipment, and multiplex equipment, required in order for Grantee to receive and distribute the HD Access Channel signal, or for the cost of any resulting upgrades to the video return line. The County and Grantee agree that such expense of acquiring and installing the transmission equipment or upgrades to the video return line qualifies as a capital cost for PEG Facilities within the meaning of the Cable Act 47 U.S.C.A. Section 542(g)(20)(C), and therefore is an appropriate use of revenues derived from those PEG Capital fees provided for in this Franchise.
- (E) Grantee shall simultaneously carry the one (1) HD Access Channels provided for in Section 9.2(D)(1) in high definition format on the Cable System, in addition to simultaneously carrying in standard definition format the SD Access Channels provided pursuant to Subsection 9.2(C). At such time as Grantee activates the additional HD Access Channel, pursuant to Section 9.2(D)(2), Grantee shall simultaneously carry this additional HD Access Channel in high definition format on the Cable System, in addition to simultaneously carrying in standard definition format the SD Access Channels pursuant to Subsection 9.2(C).
- (F) There shall be no restriction on Grantee's technology used to deploy and deliver SD or HD signals so long as the requirements of the Franchise are otherwise met. Grantee may implement HD carriage of the PEG channel in any manner (including selection of compression, utilization of IP, and other processing characteristics) that produces a signal quality for the consumer that is reasonably comparable and functionally equivalent to similar commercial HD channels carried on the Cable System. In the event the County believes that Grantee fails to meet this standard, County will notify Grantee of such concern, and Grantee will respond to any

complaints in a timely manner.

# 9.3 Access Channel Assignments

Grantee will use reasonable efforts to minimize the movement of SD and HD Access Channel assignments. Grantee shall also use reasonable efforts to institute common SD and HD Access Channel assignments among the CCUA members served by the same Headend as the County for compatible Access programming, for example, assigning all Educational Access Channels programmed by higher education organizations to the same Channel number. In addition, Grantee will make reasonable efforts to locate HD Access Channels provided pursuant to Subsection 9.2(D) in a location on its HD Channel line-up that is easily accessible to Subscribers.

### 9.4 Relocation of Access Channels

Grantee shall provide County a minimum of sixty (60) days' notice, and use its best efforts to provide one hundred and twenty (120) days notice, prior to the time Public, Educational, and Governmental Access Channel designations are changed.

# 9.5 Web-Based Video On Demand and Streaming

- (A) Grantee shall provide at no cost to the County, at 100 Third Street, Castle Rock, Colorado 80104 a business class broadband connection, broadband service and all necessary hardware, to enable the County's delivery of web-based PEG content. If, during the term of this Franchise, the County moves its location and such new location does not have the capacity to connect and receive the broadband service described in this Section 9.5(A), the cost of upgrading the network to enable such service shall be incurred by the County. The broadband connection provided herein shall be used exclusively for web-based on demand Access programming and/or web-based video streaming of Access content.
- (B) The County's Designated Access Provider(s) may provide web-based video on demand programming on line; provided however, that such Designated Access Provider(s) shall be responsible for its own costs related to a video on demand server, broadband connection and service and any other associated equipment.
- (C) For all of the County's and its Designated Access Provider's web-based on demand Access programming facilitated through the broadband connection and service described in this Section 9.5, Grantee shall be permitted to provide its logo which shall be displayed on the main web page for the web-based Access programming, in a manner reasonably similar to the Grantee's logo display found on its Project Open Voice web-based supported programming. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the size of the County's or Designated Access Provider's logos may be as large as or larger than Grantee's logo, in the County's or Designated Access Provider's sole reasonable discretion.

(D) Any costs incurred by Grantee in facilitating the web-based on demand Access programming described in this Section 9.5 may be recovered from Subscribers by Grantee in accordance with Applicable Law.

### 9.6 Support for Access Costs

Within one hundred twenty (120) days of a written request from the County, Grantee shall provide up to fifty cents (\$0.50) per month per Residential Subscriber (the "PEG Contribution") to be used solely for capital costs related to Public, Educational and Governmental Access and the web based on demand Access programming described in Section 9.5, or as may be permitted by Applicable Law. If a PEG Contribution is implemented during the term of this Franchise Agreement, and to address inflationary impacts on capital equipment or to evaluate whether the County's PEG Access capital costs have reduced with time, the County and Grantee may meet no more than three times after the Effective Date to discuss whether to increase or to decrease the PEG Contribution. The primary purpose of such meetings will be for the parties to review prior expenditures and future capital plans to determine if the current PEG Contribution is reasonably appropriate to meet future needs. The County and Grantee may suggest to each other, based upon their own assessments of reasonable past practices and future anticipated needs, whether the then current level of PEG Contribution is appropriate. If either party believes that the PEG Contribution should be modified in a reasonable amount to address such future needs the parties shall share all relevant information supporting their positions and negotiate in good faith to determine if the PEG Contribution should be increased or decreased, and if so, in what amount. Such discussions regarding potential adjustment to the PEG Contribution will be conducted pursuant to the Franchise amendment procedures in Section 4.8 of this Franchise. Grantee shall make PEG Contribution payments quarterly, following the effective date of this Franchise Agreement for the preceding quarter ending March 31, June 30, September 30, and December 31. Each payment shall be due and payable no later than forty five (45) days following the end of the quarter. The County shall have sole discretion to allocate the expenditure of such payments for any capital costs related to PEG Access. The parties agree that this Franchise shall provide County discretion to utilize Access payments for new internal network connections and enhancements to the County's existing network. Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions of this Section 9.6, the parties understand and agree that there is no PEG Contribution in place as of the Effective Date of this Franchise Agreement. Should the County grant additional franchise(s) to other wireline cable service provider(s), Grantee shall not be required to pay more than the PEG Contribution rate imposed by the other franchise agreement(s).

# 9.7 Access Support Not Franchise Fees

Grantee agrees that capital support for Access Costs arising from or relating to the obligations set forth in this Section shall in no way modify or otherwise affect Grantee's obligations to pay Franchise Fees to County. Grantee agrees that although the sum of Franchise Fees plus the payments set forth in this Section may total more than five percent (5%) of Grantee's Gross Revenues in any 12-month period, the additional commitments shall not be

offset or otherwise credited in any way against any Franchise Fee payments under this Franchise Agreement so long as such support is used for capital Access purposes consistent with this Franchise and federal law.

# 9.8 Access Channels On Basic Service or Lowest Priced HD Service Tier

All SD Access Channels under this Franchise Agreement shall be included by Grantee, without limitation, as part of Basic Service. All HD Access Channels under this Franchise Agreement shall be included by Grantee, without limitation, as part of the lowest priced tier of HD Cable Service upon which Grantee provides HD programming content.

# 9.9 Change In Technology

In the event Grantee makes any change in the Cable System and related equipment and Facilities or in Grantee's signal delivery technology, which directly or indirectly affects the signal quality or transmission of Access services or programming, Grantee shall at its own expense take necessary technical steps or provide necessary technical assistance, including the acquisition of all necessary equipment, and full training of County's Access personnel to ensure that the capabilities of Access services are not diminished or adversely affected by such change. If the County implements a new video delivery technology that is currently offered and can be accommodated on the Grantee's local Cable System then the same provisions above shall apply. If the County implements a new video delivery technology that is not currently offered on and/or that cannot be accommodated by the Grantee's local Cable System, then the County shall be responsible for acquiring all necessary equipment, facilities, technical assistance, and training to deliver the signal to the Grantee's headend for distribution to subscribers.

### 9.10 Technical Quality

Grantee shall maintain all upstream and downstream Access services and Channels on its side of the demarcation point at the same level of technical quality and reliability required by this Franchise Agreement and all other applicable laws, rules and regulations for Residential Subscriber Channels. Grantee shall provide routine maintenance for all transmission equipment on its side of the demarcation point, including modulators, decoders, multiplex equipment, and associated cable and equipment necessary to carry a quality signal to and from County's facilities for the Access Channels provided under this Franchise Agreement, including the business class broadband equipment and services necessary for the video on demand and streaming service described in Section 9.5. Grantee shall also provide, if requested in advance by the County, advice and technical expertise regarding the proper operation and maintenance of transmission equipment on the County's side of the demarcation point. The County shall be responsible for all initial and replacement costs of all HD modulator and demodulator equipment, web-based video on demand servers and web-based video streaming servers. The County shall also be responsible, at its own expense, to replace any of the County's equipment that is damaged by the gross negligence or intentional acts of County staff. The Grantee shall be responsible, at its own expense, to replace any of the Grantee's equipment that is damaged by the gross negligence or

intentional acts of Grantee's staff. The County will be responsible for the cost of repairing and/or replacing any HD PEG Access and web-based video on demand transmission equipment that Grantee maintains that is used exclusively for transmission of the County's and/or its Designated Access Providers' HD Access programming.

### 9.11 Access Cooperation

County may designate any other jurisdiction which has entered into an agreement with Grantee or an Affiliate of Grantee based upon this Franchise Agreement, any CCUA member, the CCUA, or any combination thereof to receive any Access benefit due County hereunder, or to share in the use of Access Facilities hereunder. The purpose of this subsection shall be to allow cooperation in the use of Access and the application of any provision under this Section as County in its sole discretion deems appropriate, and Grantee shall cooperate fully with, and in, any such arrangements by County.

# 9.12 Return Lines/Access Origination

- (A) Grantee shall continuously maintain the return lines previously constructed to the 100 Third Street, Castle Rock, Colorado 80104 to enable the distribution of Access programming to Residential Subscribers on the Access Channels; provided however that Grantee's maintenance obligations with respect to either of these locations shall cease if a location is no longer used in the future by the County to originate Access programming.
- (B) Grantee shall construct and maintain new Fiber Optic return lines to the Headend from production facilities of new or relocated Designated Access Providers delivering Access programming to Residential Subscribers as requested in writing by the County. All actual construction costs incurred by Grantee from the nearest interconnection point to the Designated Access Provider shall be paid by the County or the Designated Access Provider. New return lines shall be completed within one (1) year from the request of the County or its Designated Access Provider, or as otherwise agreed to by the parties. If an emergency situation necessitates movement of production facilities to a new location, the parties shall work together to complete the new return line as soon as reasonably possible.

# SECTION 10. GENERAL RIGHT-OF-WAY USE AND CONSTRUCTION

### 10.1 Right to Construct

Subject to Applicable Law, regulations, rules, resolutions and ordinances of the County and the provisions of this Franchise, Grantee may perform all construction in the Rights-of-Way for any facility needed for the maintenance or extension of Grantee's Cable System.

# 10.2 Right-of-Way Meetings

Grantee will regularly attend and participate in meetings of the County, of which the Grantee is made aware, regarding Right-of-Way issues that may impact the Cable System.

### 10.3 Joint Trenching/Boring Meetings

Grantee will regularly attend and participate in planning meetings of the County, of which the Grantee is made aware, to anticipate joint trenching and boring. Whenever it is possible and reasonably practicable to joint trench or share bores or cuts, Grantee shall work with other providers, licensees, permittees, and franchisees so as to reduce so far as possible the number of Right-of-Way cuts within the County.

### 10.4 General Standard

All work authorized and required hereunder shall be done in a safe, thorough and workmanlike manner. All installations of equipment shall be permanent in nature, durable and installed in accordance with good engineering practices.

# 10.5 Permits Required for Construction

Prior to doing any work in the Right-of Way or other public property, Grantee shall apply for, and obtain, appropriate permits from the County. As part of the permitting process, the County may impose such conditions and regulations as are necessary for the purpose of protecting any structures in such Rights-of-Way, proper restoration of such Rights-of-Way and structures, the protection of the public, and the continuity of pedestrian or vehicular traffic. Such conditions may also include the provision of a construction schedule and maps showing the location of the facilities to be installed in the Right-of-Way. Grantee shall pay all applicable fees for the requisite County permits received by Grantee.

# 10.6 Emergency Permits

In the event that emergency repairs are necessary, Grantee shall immediately notify the County of the need for such repairs. Grantee may initiate such emergency repairs, and shall apply for appropriate permits within forty-eight (48) hours after discovery of the emergency.

# 10.7 Compliance with Applicable Codes

(A) <u>County Construction Codes</u>. Grantee shall comply with all applicable County construction codes, including, without limitation, the Uniform Building Code and other building codes, the Uniform Fire Code, the Uniform Mechanical Code, the Electronic Industries Association Standard for Physical Location and Protection of Below-Ground Fiber Optic Cable Plant, and zoning codes and regulations.

- (B) <u>Tower Specifications</u>. Antenna supporting structures (towers) shall be designed for the proper loading as specified by the Electronics Industries Association (EIA), as those specifications may be amended from time to time. Antenna supporting structures (towers) shall be painted, lighted, erected and maintained in accordance with all applicable rules and regulations of the Federal Aviation Administration and all other applicable federal, State, and local codes or regulations.
- (C) <u>Safety Codes</u>. Grantee shall comply with all federal, State and County safety requirements, rules, regulations, laws and practices, and employ all necessary devices as required by Applicable Law during construction, operation and repair of its Cable System. By way of illustration and not limitation, Grantee shall comply with the National Electric Code, National Electrical Safety Code and Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) Standards.

### 10.8 GIS Mapping

Grantee shall comply with any generally applicable ordinances, rules and regulations of the County regarding geographic information mapping systems for users of the Rights-of-Way.

#### 10.9 Minimal Interference

Work in the Right-of-Way, on other public property, near public property, or on or near private property shall be done in a manner that causes the least interference with the rights and reasonable convenience of property owners and residents. Grantee's Cable System shall be constructed and maintained in such manner as not to interfere with sewers, water pipes, or any other property of the County, or with any other pipes, wires, conduits, pedestals, structures, or other facilities that may have been laid in the Rights-of-Way by, or under, the County's authority. The Grantee's Cable System shall be located, erected and maintained so as not to endanger or interfere with the lives of Persons, or to interfere with new improvements the County may deem proper to make or to unnecessarily hinder or obstruct the free use of the Rights-of-Way or other public property, and shall not interfere with the travel and use of public places by the public during the construction, repair, operation or removal thereof, and shall not obstruct or impede traffic. In the event of such interference, the County may require the removal or relocation of Grantee's lines, cables, equipment and other appurtenances from the property in question at Grantee's expense.

### 10.10 Prevent Injury/Safety

Grantee shall provide and use any equipment and facilities necessary to control and carry Grantee's signals so as to prevent injury to the County's property or property belonging to any Person. Grantee, at its own expense, shall repair, renew, change and improve its facilities to keep them in good repair, and safe and presentable condition. All excavations made by Grantee in the Rights-of-Way shall be properly safeguarded for the prevention of accidents by the placement of adequate barriers, fences or boarding, the bounds of which, during periods of dusk and darkness, shall be clearly designated by warning lights.

# 10.11 Hazardous Substances

- (A) Grantee shall comply with any and all Applicable Laws, statutes, regulations and orders concerning hazardous substances relating to Grantee's Cable System in the Rights-of-Way.
- (B) Upon reasonable notice to Grantee, the County may inspect Grantee's facilities in the Rights-of-Way to determine if any release of hazardous substances has occurred, or may occur, from or related to Grantee's Cable System. In removing or modifying Grantee's facilities as provided in this Franchise, Grantee shall also remove all residue of hazardous substances related thereto.
- (C) Grantee agrees to indemnify the County against any claims, costs, and expenses, of any kind, whether direct or indirect, incurred by the County arising out of a release of hazardous substances caused by Grantee's Cable System.

#### 10.12 Locates

Prior to doing any work in the Right-of-Way, Grantee shall give appropriate notices to the County and to the notification association established in C.R.S. Section 9-1.5-105, as such may be amended from time to time.

Within forty-eight (48) hours after any County bureau or franchisee, licensee or permittee notifies Grantee of a proposed Right-of-Way excavation, Grantee shall, at Grantee's expense:

- (A) Mark on the surface all of its located underground facilities within the area of the proposed excavation;
- (B) Notify the excavator of any unlocated underground facilities in the area of the proposed excavation; or
- (C) Notify the excavator that Grantee does not have any underground facilities in the vicinity of the proposed excavation.

# 10.13 Notice to Private Property Owners

Grantee shall give notice to private property owners of work on or adjacent to private property in accordance with the County's Customer Service Standards, as the same may be amended from time to time by the Board acting by Ordinance or resolution.

# 10.14 Underground Construction and Use of Poles

(A) When required by general ordinances, resolutions, regulations or rules of the County or applicable State or federal law, Grantee's Cable System shall be placed underground at

Grantee's expense unless funding is generally available for such relocation to all users of the Rights-of-Way. Placing facilities underground does not preclude the use of ground-mounted appurtenances.

- (B) Where electric, telephone, and other above-ground utilities are installed underground at the time of Cable System construction, or when all such wiring is subsequently placed underground, all Cable System lines shall also be placed underground with other wireline service at no expense to the County or Subscribers unless funding is generally available for such relocation to all users of the Rights-of-Way. Related Cable System equipment, such as pedestals, must be placed in accordance with the County's applicable code requirements and rules. In areas where either electric or telephone utility wiring is aerial, the Grantee may install aerial cable, except when a property owner or resident requests underground installation and agrees to bear the additional cost in excess of aerial installation.
  - (C) The Grantee shall utilize existing poles and conduit wherever possible.
- (D) In the event Grantee cannot obtain the necessary poles and related facilities pursuant to a pole attachment agreement, and only in such event, then it shall be lawful for Grantee to make all needed excavations in the Rights-of-Way for the purpose of placing, erecting, laying, maintaining, repairing, and removing poles, supports for wires and conductors, and any other facility needed for the maintenance or extension of Grantee's Cable System. All poles of Grantee shall be located as designated by the proper County authorities.
- (E) This Franchise does not grant, give or convey to the Grantee the right or privilege to install its facilities in any manner on specific utility poles or equipment of the County or any other Person. Copies of agreements for the use of poles, conduits or other utility facilities must be provided upon request by the County.

### 10.15 Undergrounding of Multiple Dwelling Unit Drops

In cases of single site Multiple Dwelling Units, Grantee shall minimize the number of individual aerial drop cables by installing multiple drop cables underground between the pole and Multiple Dwelling Unit where determined to be technologically feasible in agreement with the owners and/or owner's association of the Multiple Dwelling Units.

#### 10.16 Burial Standards

(A) <u>Depths.</u> Unless otherwise required by law, Grantee and its contractors shall comply with the following burial depth standards. In no event shall Grantee be required to bury its cable deeper than electric or gas facilities, or existing telephone facilities in the same portion of the Right-of-Way, so long as those facilities have been buried in accordance with Applicable Law:

Feeder lines shall be buried at a minimum depth of eighteen (18) inches.

Trunk lines shall be buried at a minimum depth of thirty-six (36) inches.

Fiber Optic cable shall be buried at a minimum depth of thirty-six (36) inches.

In the event of a conflict between this subsection and the provisions of any customer service standard, this subsection shall control.

(B) <u>Timeliness.</u> Cable drops installed by Grantee to residences shall be buried according to these standards within one calendar week of initial installation, or at a time mutually agreed upon between the Grantee and the Subscriber. When freezing surface conditions prevent Grantee from achieving such timetable, Grantee shall apprise the Subscriber of the circumstances and the revised schedule for burial, and shall provide the Subscriber with Grantee's telephone number and instructions as to how and when to call Grantee to request burial of the line if the revised schedule is not met.

### **10.17** Cable Drop Bonding

Grantee shall ensure that all cable drops are properly bonded at the home, consistent with applicable code requirements.

### 10.18 Prewiring

Any ordinance or resolution of the County that requires prewiring of subdivisions or other developments for electrical and telephone service shall be construed to include wiring for Cable Systems.

### 10.19 Repair and Restoration of Property

- (A) The Grantee shall protect public and private property from damage. If damage occurs, the Grantee shall promptly notify the property owner within twenty-four (24) hours in writing.
- (B) Whenever Grantee disturbs or damages any Right-of-Way, other public property or any private property, Grantee shall promptly restore the Right-of-Way or property to at least its prior condition, normal wear and tear excepted, at its own expense.
- (C) Rights-of-Way and Other Public Property. Grantee shall warrant any restoration work performed by or for Grantee in the Right-of-Way or on other public property in accordance with Applicable Law. If restoration is not satisfactorily performed by the Grantee within a reasonable time, the County may, after prior notice to the Grantee, or without notice where the disturbance or damage may create a risk to public health or safety, cause the repairs to be made and recover the cost of those repairs from the Grantee. Within thirty (30) days of receipt of an itemized list of those costs, including the costs of labor, materials and equipment, the Grantee shall pay the County.

(D) <u>Private Property</u>. Upon completion of the work which caused any disturbance or damage, Grantee shall promptly commence restoration of private property, and will use best efforts to complete the restoration within seventy-two (72) hours, considering the nature of the work that must be performed. Grantee shall also perform such restoration in accordance with the County's Customer Service Standards, as the same may be amended from time to time by the Board acting by ordinance or resolution.

### 10.20 Acquisition of Facilities

Upon Grantee's acquisition of Cable System-related facilities in any County Right-of-Way, or upon the addition to the County of any area in which Grantee owns or operates any such facility, Grantee shall, at the County's request, submit to the County a statement describing all such facilities involved, whether authorized by franchise, permit, license or other prior right, and specifying the location of all such facilities to the extent Grantee has possession of such information. Such Cable System-related facilities shall immediately be subject to the terms of this Franchise.

# 10.21 Discontinuing Use/Abandonment of Cable System Facilities

Whenever Grantee intends to discontinue using any facility within the Rights-of-Way, Grantee shall submit for the County's approval a complete description of the facility and the date on which Grantee intends to discontinue using the facility. Grantee may remove the facility or request that the County permit it to remain in place. Notwithstanding Grantee's request that any such facility remain in place, the County may require Grantee to remove the facility from the Right-of-Way or modify the facility to protect the public health, welfare, safety, and convenience, or otherwise serve the public interest. The County may require Grantee to perform a combination of modification and removal of the facility. Grantee shall complete such removal or modification in accordance with a schedule set by the County. Until such time as Grantee removes or modifies the facility as directed by the County, or until the rights to and responsibility for the facility are accepted by another Person having authority to construct and maintain such facility, Grantee shall be responsible for all necessary repairs and relocations of the facility, as well as maintenance of the Right-of-Way, in the same manner and degree as if the facility were in active use, and Grantee shall retain all liability for such facility. If Grantee abandons its facilities, the County may choose to use such facilities for any purpose whatsoever including, but not limited to, Access purposes.

# 10.22 Movement of Cable System Facilities For County Purposes

The County shall have the right to require Grantee to relocate, remove, replace, modify or disconnect Grantee's facilities and equipment located in the Rights-of-Way or on any other property of the County for public purposes, in the event of an emergency, or when the public health, safety or welfare requires such change (for example, without limitation, by reason of traffic conditions, public safety, Right-of-Way vacation, Right-of-Way construction, change or establishment of Right-of-Way grade, installation of sewers, drains, gas or water pipes, or any

other types of structures or improvements by the County for public purposes). Such work shall be performed at the Grantee's expense. Except during an emergency, the County shall provide reasonable notice to Grantee, not to be less than five (5) business days, and allow Grantee with the opportunity to perform such action. In the event of any capital improvement project exceeding \$500,000 in expenditures by the County that requires the removal, replacement, modification or disconnection of Grantee's facilities or equipment, the County shall provide at least sixty (60) days' written notice to Grantee. Following notice by the County, Grantee shall relocate, remove, replace, modify or disconnect any of its facilities or equipment within any Right-of-Way, or on any other property of the County. If the County requires Grantee to relocate its facilities located within the Rights-of-Way, the County shall make a reasonable effort to provide Grantee with an alternate location within the Rights-of-Way. If funds are generally made available to users of the Rights-of-Way for such relocation, Grantee shall be entitled to its pro rata share of such funds.

If the Grantee fails to complete this work within the time prescribed and to the County's satisfaction, the County may cause such work to be done and bill the cost of the work to the Grantee, including all costs and expenses incurred by the County due to Grantee's delay. In such event, the County shall not be liable for any damage to any portion of Grantee's Cable System. Within thirty (30) days of receipt of an itemized list of those costs, the Grantee shall pay the County.

# 10.23 Movement of Cable System Facilities for Other Franchise Holders

If any removal, replacement, modification or disconnection of the Cable System is required to accommodate the construction, operation or repair of the facilities or equipment of another County franchise holder, Grantee shall, after at least thirty (30) days' advance written notice, take action to effect the necessary changes requested by the responsible entity. Grantee may require that the costs associated with the removal or relocation be paid by the benefited party.

### 10.24 Temporary Changes for Other Permittees

At the request of any Person holding a valid permit and upon reasonable advance notice, Grantee shall temporarily raise, lower or remove its wires as necessary to permit the moving of a building, vehicle, equipment or other item. The expense of such temporary changes must be paid by the permit holder, and Grantee may require a reasonable deposit of the estimated payment in advance.

# 10.25 Reservation of County Use of Right-of-Way

Nothing in this Franchise shall prevent the County or public utilities owned, maintained or operated by public entities other than the County from constructing sewers; grading, paving, repairing or altering any Right-of-Way; laying down, repairing or removing water mains; or constructing or establishing any other public work or improvement. All such work shall be done,

insofar as practicable, so as not to obstruct, injure or prevent the use and operation of Grantee's Cable System.

### 10.26 Tree Trimming

Grantee may prune or cause to be pruned, using proper pruning practices, any tree in the County's Rights-of-Way which interferes with Grantee's Cable System. Grantee shall comply with any general ordinance or regulations of the County regarding tree trimming. Except in emergencies, Grantee may not prune trees at a point below thirty (30) feet above sidewalk grade until one (1) week written notice has been given to the owner or occupant of the premises abutting the Right-of-Way in or over which the tree is growing. The owner or occupant of the abutting premises may prune such tree at his or her own expense during this one (1) week period. If the owner or occupant fails to do so, Grantee may prune such tree at its own expense. For purposes of this subsection, emergencies exist when it is necessary to prune to protect the public or Grantee's facilities from imminent danger only.

### 10.27 Inspection of Construction and Facilities

The County may inspect any of Grantee's facilities, equipment or construction at any time upon at least twenty-four (24) hours notice, or, in case of emergency, upon demand without prior notice. The County shall have the right to charge generally applicable inspection fees therefore. If an unsafe condition is found to exist, the County, in addition to taking any other action permitted under Applicable Law, may order Grantee, in writing, to make the necessary repairs and alterations specified therein forthwith to correct the unsafe condition by a time the County establishes. The County has the right to correct, inspect, administer and repair the unsafe condition if Grantee fails to do so, and to charge Grantee therefore.

### 10.28 Stop Work

- (A) On notice from the County that any work is being performed contrary to the provisions of this Franchise, or in an unsafe or dangerous manner as determined by the County, or in violation of the terms of any applicable permit, laws, regulations, ordinances, or standards, the work may immediately be stopped by the County.
  - (B) The stop work order shall:
    - (1) Be in writing;
    - (2) Be given to the Person doing the work, or posted on the work site;
    - (3) Be sent to Grantee by overnight delivery at the address given herein;
    - (4) Indicate the nature of the alleged violation or unsafe condition; and

(5) Establish conditions under which work may be resumed.

# 10.29 Work of Contractors and Subcontractors

Grantee's contractors and subcontractors shall be licensed and bonded in accordance with the County's ordinances, regulations and requirements. Work by contractors and subcontractors is subject to the same restrictions, limitations and conditions as if the work were performed by Grantee. Grantee shall be responsible for all work performed by its contractors and subcontractors and others performing work on its behalf as if the work were performed by it, and shall ensure that all such work is performed in compliance with this Franchise and other Applicable Law, and shall be jointly and severally liable for all damages and correcting all damage caused by them. It is Grantee's responsibility to ensure that contractors, subcontractors or other Persons performing work on Grantee's behalf are familiar with the requirements of this Franchise and other Applicable Law governing the work performed by them.

### 10.30 Reimbursement of Grantee Costs

Grantee specifically reserves any rights it may have under Applicable Law for reimbursement of costs related to undergrounding or relocation of the Cable System and nothing herein shall be construed as a waiver of such rights.

# SECTION 11. CABLE SYSTEM, TECHNICAL STANDARDS AND TESTING

#### 11.1 Subscriber Network

- (A) Grantee's Cable System shall be equivalent to or exceed technical characteristics of a traditional HFC 750 MHz Cable System and provide Activated Two-Way capability. The Cable System shall be capable of supporting video and audio. The Cable System shall deliver no less than one hundred ten (110) Channels of digital video programming services to Subscribers, provided that the Grantee reserves the right to use the bandwidth in the future for other uses based on market factors.
- (B) Equipment must be installed so that all closed captioning programming received by the Cable System shall include the closed caption signal so long as the closed caption signal is provided consistent with FCC standards. Equipment must be installed so that all local signals received in stereo or with secondary audio tracks (broadcast and Access) are retransmitted in those same formats.
  - (C) All construction shall be subject to the County's permitting process.
- (D) Grantee and County shall meet, at the County's request, to discuss the progress of the design plan and construction.

- (E) Grantee will take prompt corrective action if it finds that any facilities or equipment on the Cable System are not operating as expected, or if it finds that facilities and equipment do not comply with the requirements of this Franchise or Applicable Law.
- (F) Grantee's construction decisions shall be based solely upon legitimate engineering decisions and shall not take into consideration the income level of any particular community within the Franchise Area.

# 11.2 Technology Assessment

- (A) The County may notify Grantee on or after five (5) years after the Effective Date, that the County will conduct a technology assessment of Grantee's Cable System. The technology assessment may include, but is not be limited to, determining whether Grantee's Cable System technology and performance are consistent with current technical practices and range and level of services existing in the fifteen (15) largest U.S. cable systems owned and operated by Grantee's Parent Corporation and/or Affiliates pursuant to franchises that have been renewed or extended since the Effective Date.
- (B) Grantee shall cooperate with the County to provide necessary non-confidential and proprietary information upon the County's reasonable request as part of the technology assessment.
- (C) At the discretion of the County, findings from the technology assessment may be included in any proceeding commenced for the purpose of identifying future cable-related community needs and interests undertaken by the County pursuant to 47 U.S.C. §546.

### 11.3 Standby Power

Grantee's Cable System Headend shall be capable of providing at least twelve (12) hours of emergency operation. In addition, throughout the term of this Franchise, Grantee shall have a plan in place, along with all resources necessary for implementing such plan, for dealing with outages of more than four (4) hours. This outage plan and evidence of requisite implementation resources shall be presented to the County no later than thirty (30) days following receipt of a request.

# 11.4 Emergency Alert Capability

Grantee shall provide an operating Emergency Alert System ("EAS") throughout the term of this Franchise in compliance with FCC standards. Grantee shall test the EAS as required by the FCC. Upon request, the County shall be permitted to participate in and/or witness the EAS testing up to twice a year on a schedule formed in consultation with Grantee. If the test indicates that the EAS is not performing properly, Grantee shall make any necessary adjustment to the EAS, and the EAS shall be retested.

### 11.5 Technical Performance

The technical performance of the Cable System shall meet or exceed all applicable federal (including, but not limited to, the FCC), State and local technical standards, as they may be amended from time to time, regardless of the transmission technology utilized. The County shall have the full authority permitted by Applicable Law to enforce compliance with these technical standards.

# 11.6 Cable System Performance Testing

- (A) Grantee shall, at Grantee's expense, perform the following tests on its Cable System:
  - (1) All tests required by the FCC;
  - (2) All other tests reasonably necessary to determine compliance with technical standards adopted by the FCC at any time during the term of this Franchise; and
    - (3) All other tests as otherwise specified in this Franchise.
  - (B) At a minimum, Grantee's tests shall include:
    - (1) Cumulative leakage index testing of any new construction;
  - (2) Semi-annual compliance and proof of performance tests in conformance with generally accepted industry guidelines;
    - (3) Tests in response to Subscriber complaints;
  - (4) Periodic monitoring tests, at intervals not to exceed six (6) months, of Subscriber (field) test points, the Headend, and the condition of standby power supplies; and
  - (5) Cumulative leakage index tests, at least annually, designed to ensure that one hundred percent (100%) of Grantee's Cable System has been ground or air tested for signal leakage in accordance with FCC standards.
- (C) Grantee shall maintain written records of all results of its Cable System tests, performed by or for Grantee. Copies of such test results will be provided to the County upon reasonable request.
- (D) If the FCC no longer requires proof of performance tests for Grantee's Cable System during the term of this Franchise, Grantee agrees that it shall continue to conduct proof of performance tests on the Cable System in accordance with the standards that were in place on

the Effective Date, or any generally applicable standards later adopted, at least once a year, and provide written results of such tests to the County upon request.

- (E) The FCC semi-annual testing is conducted in January/February and July/August of each year. If the County contacts Grantee prior to the next test period (*i.e.*, before December 15 and June 15 respectively of each year), Grantee shall provide County with no less than seven (7) days prior written notice of the actual date(s) for FCC compliance testing. If County notifies Grantee by the December 15th and June 15th dates that it wishes to have a representative present during the next test(s), Grantee shall cooperate in scheduling its testing so that the representative can be present. Notwithstanding the above, all technical performance tests may be witnessed by representatives of the County.
- (F) Grantee shall be required to promptly take such corrective measures as are necessary to correct any performance deficiencies fully and to prevent their recurrence as far as possible. Grantee's failure to correct deficiencies identified through this testing process shall be a material violation of this Franchise. Sites shall be re-tested following correction.

#### 11.7 Additional Tests

Where there exists other evidence which in the judgment of the County casts doubt upon the reliability or technical quality of Cable Service, the County shall have the right and authority to require Grantee to test, analyze and report on the performance of the Cable System. Grantee shall fully cooperate with the County in performing such testing and shall prepare the results and a report, if requested, within thirty (30) days after testing. Such report shall include the following information:

- (A) the nature of the complaint or problem which precipitated the special tests;
- (B) the Cable System component tested;
- (C) the equipment used and procedures employed in testing:
- (D) the method, if any, in which such complaint or problem was resolved; and
- (E) any other information pertinent to said tests and analysis which may be required.

# SECTION 12. SERVICE AVAILABILITY, INTERCONNECTION AND SERVICE TO SCHOOLS AND PUBLIC BUILDINGS

### 12.1 Service Availability

(A) The parties acknowledge that the County has granted cable franchises to multiple cable operators and that investment in and expansion of Grantee's Cable System should be driven by market success, and not a contractual requirement for ubiquitous coverage. To

demonstrate its commitment to provide Cable Service to the County, Grantee agrees that within three (3) years from the Effective Date of this Franchise, Grantee shall ensure that Grantee has the capability to offer Cable Services to 15% of the Dwelling Units ("Initial Coverage Threshold") in the Franchise Area. Grantee shall not be obligated under this Franchise to expand its Cable System beyond the Initial Coverage Threshold until 27.5% of the Dwelling Units in the Initial Coverage Threshold purchase Cable Services from Grantee ("Initial Subscription Threshold"). If, on the third anniversary of the grant of this Franchise, Grantee's investment exceeds the Initial Coverage Threshold, then the Initial Subscriber Threshold shall apply to all Dwelling Units capable of being served by Grantee, not just the Initial Coverage Threshold. Once the Grantee achieves the Initial Subscription Threshold, Grantee agrees that within two (2) years from the date Grantee meets the Initial Subscription Threshold, Grantee shall ensure that Grantee has the capability to offer Cable Services to an additional 15% of the Dwelling Units ("Additional Coverage Threshold") in the Franchise Area. Grantee shall not be obligated under this Franchise to expand its Cable System beyond the Additional Coverage Threshold until 27.5% of the Dwelling Units in the Additional Coverage Threshold, purchase Cable Services from Grantee ("Additional Subscription Threshold"). If Grantee's investment exceeds the Additional Coverage Threshold prior to the meeting the Additional Subscriber Threshold, then the Additional Subscriber Threshold shall apply to all Dwelling Units capable of being served by Grantee, not just the Additional Coverage Threshold. Thereafter, this process of increasing the Additional Coverage Threshold by 15% when the prior Subscription Threshold is met will be continued until Grantee is capable of offering Cable Services to all Dwelling Units in the Franchise Area.

- (B) In General. Except as otherwise provided herein, within Grantee's Initial or Additional Coverage Thresholds, Grantee shall provide Cable Service within seven (7) days of a request by any Person within the Franchise Area. For purposes of this subsection, a request shall be deemed made on the date of signing a service agreement, receipt of funds by Grantee, receipt of a written request by Grantee or receipt by Grantee of a verified verbal request. Grantee shall provide such service at non-discriminatory monthly rates for Residential Subscribers, consistent with Applicable Law. Grantee shall provide Cable Service at a non-discriminatory installation charge for a standard installation, consisting of a one hundred twenty five (125) foot drop (referred to herein as "Standard Installation") from the nearest point of access on the Right-of-Way from which the Cable System is designed to service the site and connecting to an inside wall for Residential Subscribers, with additional charges for non-standard installations computed according to a non-discriminatory methodology for such installations ("Non-Standard Installation"), adopted by Grantee and provided in writing to the County, and at rates consistent with Section 4.3 of this Franchise. A request by a Subscriber to locate a cable drop underground may be deemed a Non-Standard Installation.
- (C) Service to Multiple Dwelling Units. The Grantee shall offer the individual units of a Multiple Dwelling Unit all Cable Services offered to other Dwelling Units in the Franchise Area and shall individually wire units upon request of the property owner or renter who has been given written authorization by the owner; provided, however, that any such offering is conditioned upon the Grantee having legal access to said unit. The County acknowledges that

the Grantee cannot control the dissemination of particular Cable Services beyond the point of demarcation at a Multiple Dwelling Unit.

(D) While Grantee is granted a franchise to serve the entire Franchise Area, subject to the provisions of this section, the parties acknowledge that Grantee shall have the sole discretion to determine where and when to activate and offer Cable Services to Subscribers.

# 12.2 Connection of Public Facilities

- (A) Grantee shall, at no cost to the County, provide one outlet of Basic Service and Digital Starter Service to all County owned and occupied buildings, schools and public libraries located in areas where Grantee provides Cable Service, so long as these facilities are already served or the interconnection point on these facilities is located within 150 feet of the distribution point on the Cable System, from which Cable Service can be provided to these facilities. For purposes of this subsection, "school" means all State-accredited K-12 public and private schools.
- The Cable Service described herein is a voluntary initiative of Grantee, and shall (B) be provided throughout the term of this Franchise provided, however, that after the Effective Date of this Franchise, the County shall use its best efforts to fairly allocate complimentary Cable Service to ensure the pro rata distribution among franchised wireline providers (taking into account any technical limitations of franchised wireline providers). Grantee has the right to terminate its voluntary complimentary Cable Service to any governmental building upon ninety (90) days' notice to the County. In the case of leased facilities, the recipient of service is responsible for securing approval for appropriate right of entry suitable to the Grantee in its reasonable discretion. The Cable Service provided shall not extend to areas of County buildings where the Grantee would normally enter into a commercial contract to provide such Cable Service (e.g., golf courses, airport restaurants and concourses, and recreation center work out facilities). Outlets of Basic and Digital Starter Cable Service provided in accordance with this section may be used to distribute Cable Services throughout such buildings, provided such distribution can be accomplished without causing Cable System disruption and general technical standards are maintained. Such outlets may only be used for lawful purposes. Such Cable Service shall not be located in public waiting areas or used to entertain the public, nor shall they be used in a way that might violate copyright laws. The intent of the provisions in this Section 12.2 is to ensure access to Cable Services for the benefit of the County and Schools and other entities as provided herein; it being agreed, however, that Grantee need not provide Cable Service if complimentary cable service is already being provided by another cable operator. The County shall provide notice to the Grantee within thirty (30) days of the date on which any other franchised wireline provider completes installation of complimentary Cable Service to any governmental building at which Grantee currently provides Cable Service or has an obligation to provide such service under this Section 12.2. The County reserves all rights it has under Applicable Law to assert the maximum calculation of Gross Revenues permitted under Section 1.28 of this Franchise consistent with Section 1.28(A), but without regard to any further limitations set forth in Section 1.28(B), and the manner in which the value of the complimentary Cable Services is calculated. Subject to Applicable Law, should Grantee elect to offset

governmental complimentary services against Franchise Fees, Grantee shall first provide the County with ninety (90) days' prior written notice.

#### SECTION 13. FRANCHISE VIOLATIONS

# 13.1 Procedure for Remedying Franchise Violations

- (A) If the County reasonably believes that Grantee has failed to perform any obligation under this Franchise or has failed to perform in a timely manner, the County shall notify Grantee in writing, stating with reasonable specificity the nature of the alleged default. Grantee shall have thirty (30) days from the receipt of such notice to:
  - (1) respond to the County, contesting the County's assertion that a default has occurred, and requesting a meeting in accordance with subsection (B), below;
    - (2) cure the default; or,
  - (3) notify the County that Grantee cannot cure the default within the thirty (30) days, because of the nature of the default. In the event the default cannot be cured within thirty (30) days, Grantee shall promptly take all reasonable steps to cure the default and notify the County in writing and in detail as to the exact steps that will be taken and the projected completion date. In such case, the County may set a meeting in accordance with subsection (B) below to determine whether additional time beyond the thirty (30) days specified above is indeed needed, and whether Grantee's proposed completion schedule and steps are reasonable.
- (B) If Grantee does not cure the alleged default within the cure period stated above, or by the projected completion date under subsection (A)(3), or denies the default and requests a meeting in accordance with (A)(1), or the County orders a meeting in accordance with subsection (A)(3), the County shall set a meeting to investigate said issues or the existence of the alleged default. The County shall notify Grantee of the meeting in writing and such meeting shall take place no less than thirty (30) days after Grantee's receipt of notice of the meeting. At the meeting, Grantee shall be provided an opportunity to be heard and to present evidence in its defense.
- (C) If, after the meeting, the County determines that a default exists, the County shall order Grantee to correct or remedy the default or breach within fifteen (15) days or within such other reasonable time frame as the County shall determine. In the event Grantee does not cure within such time to the County's reasonable satisfaction, the County may:
  - (1) Withdraw an amount from the letter of credit as monetary damages;
  - (2) Recommend the revocation of this Franchise pursuant to the procedures in subsection 13.2; or,

- (3) Recommend any other legal or equitable remedy available under this Franchise or any Applicable Law.
- (D) The determination as to whether a violation of this Franchise has occurred shall be within the discretion of the County, provided that any such final determination may be subject to appeal to a court of competent jurisdiction under Applicable Law.

#### 13.2 Revocation

- (A) In addition to revocation in accordance with other provisions of this Franchise, the County may revoke this Franchise and rescind all rights and privileges associated with this Franchise in the following circumstances, each of which represents a material breach of this Franchise:
  - (1) If Grantee fails to perform any material obligation under this Franchise or under any other agreement, ordinance or document regarding the County and Grantee:
  - (2) If Grantee willfully fails for more than forty-eight (48) hours to provide continuous and uninterrupted Cable Service;
  - (3) If Grantee attempts to evade any material provision of this Franchise or to practice any fraud or deceit upon the County or Subscribers; or
  - (4) If Grantee becomes insolvent, or if there is an assignment for the benefit of Grantee's creditors;
  - (5) If Grantee makes a material misrepresentation of fact in the application for or negotiation of this Franchise.
- (B) Following the procedures set forth in subsection 13.1 and prior to forfeiture or termination of the Franchise, the County shall give written notice to the Grantee of its intent to revoke the Franchise and set a date for a revocation proceeding. The notice shall set forth the exact nature of the noncompliance.
- (C) Any proceeding under the paragraph above shall be conducted by the Board and open to the public. Grantee shall be afforded at least forty-five (45) days prior written notice of such proceeding.
  - (1) At such proceeding, Grantee shall be provided a fair opportunity for full participation, including the right to be represented by legal counsel, to introduce evidence, and to question witnesses. A complete verbatim record and transcript shall be made of such proceeding and the cost shall be shared equally between the parties. The Board shall hear any Persons interested in the revocation, and shall allow Grantee, in particular, an opportunity to state its position on the matter.

- (2) Within ninety (90) days after the hearing, the Board shall determine whether to revoke the Franchise and declare that the Franchise is revoked and the letter of credit forfeited; or if the breach at issue is capable of being cured by Grantee, direct Grantee to take appropriate remedial action within the time and in the manner and on the terms and conditions that the Board determines are reasonable under the circumstances. If the County determines that the Franchise is to be revoked, the County shall set forth the reasons for such a decision and shall transmit a copy of the decision to the Grantee. Grantee shall be bound by the County's decision to revoke the Franchise unless it appeals the decision to a court of competent jurisdiction within fifteen (15) days of the date of the decision.
  - (3) Grantee shall be entitled to such relief as the Court may deem appropriate.
- (4) The Board may at its sole discretion take any lawful action which it deems appropriate to enforce the County's rights under the Franchise in lieu of revocation of the Franchise.

### 13.3 Procedures in the Event of Termination or Revocation

- (A) If this Franchise expires without renewal after completion of all processes available under this Franchise and federal law or is otherwise lawfully terminated or revoked, the County may, subject to Applicable Law:
  - (1) Allow Grantee to maintain and operate its Cable System on a month-tomonth basis or short-term extension of this Franchise for not less than six (6) months, unless a sale of the Cable System can be closed sooner or Grantee demonstrates to the County's satisfaction that it needs additional time to complete the sale; or
  - (2) Purchase Grantee's Cable System in accordance with the procedures set forth in subsection 13.4, below.
- (B) In the event that a sale has not been completed in accordance with subsections (A)(1) and/or (A)(2) above, the County may order the removal of the above-ground Cable System facilities and such underground facilities from the County at Grantee's sole expense within a reasonable period of time as determined by the County. In removing its plant, structures and equipment, Grantee shall refill, at is own expense, any excavation that is made by it and shall leave all Rights-of-Way, public places and private property in as good condition as that prevailing prior to Grantee's removal of its equipment without affecting the electrical or telephone cable wires or attachments. The indemnification and insurance provisions and the letter of credit shall remain in full force and effect during the period of removal, and Grantee shall not be entitled to, and agrees not to request, compensation of any sort therefore.

- (C) If Grantee fails to complete any removal required by subsection 13.3 (B) to the County's satisfaction, after written notice to Grantee, the County may cause the work to be done and Grantee shall reimburse the County for the costs incurred within thirty (30) days after receipt of an itemized list of the costs, or the County may recover the costs through the letter of credit provided by Grantee.
- (D) The County may seek legal and equitable relief to enforce the provisions of this Franchise.

### 13.4 Purchase of Cable System

- (A) If at any time this Franchise is revoked, terminated, or not renewed upon expiration in accordance with the provisions of federal law, the County shall have the option to purchase the Cable System.
- (B) The County may, at any time thereafter, offer in writing to purchase Grantee's Cable System. Grantee shall have thirty (30) days from receipt of a written offer from the County within which to accept or reject the offer.
- (C) In any case where the County elects to purchase the Cable System, the purchase shall be closed within one hundred twenty (120) days of the date of the County's audit of a current profit and loss statement of Grantee. The County shall pay for the Cable System in cash or certified funds, and Grantee shall deliver appropriate bills of sale and other instruments of conveyance.
- (D) For the purposes of this subsection, the price for the Cable System shall be determined as follows:
  - (1) In the case of the expiration of the Franchise without renewal, at fair market value determined on the basis of Grantee's Cable System valued as a going concern, but with no value allocated to the Franchise itself. In order to obtain the fair market value, this valuation shall be reduced by the amount of any lien, encumbrance, or other obligation of Grantee which the County would assume.
  - (2) In the case of revocation for cause, the equitable price of Grantee's Cable System.

### 13.5 Receivership and Foreclosure

(A) At the option of the County, subject to Applicable Law, this Franchise may be revoked one hundred twenty (120) days after the appointment of a receiver or trustee to take over and conduct the business of Grantee whether in a receivership, reorganization, bankruptcy or other action or proceeding, unless:

- (1) The receivership or trusteeship is vacated within one hundred twenty (120) days of appointment; or
- (2) The receivers or trustees have, within one hundred twenty (120) days after their election or appointment, fully complied with all the terms and provisions of this Franchise, and have remedied all defaults under the Franchise. Additionally, the receivers or trustees shall have executed an agreement duly approved by the court having jurisdiction, by which the receivers or trustees assume and agree to be bound by each and every term, provision and limitation of this Franchise.
- (B) If there is a foreclosure or other involuntary sale of the whole or any part of the plant, property and equipment of Grantee, the County may serve notice of revocation on Grantee and to the purchaser at the sale, and the rights and privileges of Grantee under this Franchise shall be revoked thirty (30) days after service of such notice, unless:
  - (1) The County has approved the transfer of the Franchise, in accordance with the procedures set forth in this Franchise and as provided by law; and
  - (2) The purchaser has covenanted and agreed with the County to assume and be bound by all of the terms and conditions of this Franchise.

# 13.6 No Monetary Recourse Against the County

Grantee shall not have any monetary recourse against the County or its officers, officials, boards, commissions, agents or employees for any loss, costs, expenses or damages arising out of any provision or requirement of this Franchise or the enforcement thereof, in accordance with the provisions of applicable federal, State and local law. The rights of the County under this Franchise are in addition to, and shall not be read to limit, any immunities the County may enjoy under federal, State or local law.

### 13.7 Alternative Remedies

No provision of this Franchise shall be deemed to bar the right of the County to seek or obtain judicial relief from a violation of any provision of the Franchise or any rule, regulation, requirement or directive promulgated thereunder. Neither the existence of other remedies identified in this Franchise nor the exercise thereof shall be deemed to bar or otherwise limit the right of the County to recover monetary damages for such violations by Grantee, or to seek and obtain judicial enforcement of Grantee's obligations by means of specific performance, injunctive relief or mandate, or any other remedy at law or in equity.

### 13.8 Assessment of Monetary Damages

(A) The County may assess against Grantee monetary damages (i) up to five hundred dollars (\$500.00) per day for general construction delays, violations of PEG obligations or

payment obligations, (ii) up to two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00) per day for any other material breaches, or (iii) up to one hundred dollars (\$100.00) per day for defaults, and withdraw the assessment from the letter of credit or collect the assessment as specified in this Franchise. Damages pursuant to this Section shall accrue for a period not to exceed one hundred twenty (120) days per violation proceeding. To assess any amount from the letter of credit, County shall follow the procedures for withdrawals from the letter of credit set forth in the letter of credit and in this Franchise. Such damages shall accrue beginning thirty (30) days following Grantee's receipt of the notice required by subsection 13.1(A), or such later date if approved by the County in its sole discretion, but may not be assessed until after the procedures in subsection 13.1 have been completed.

(B) The assessment does not constitute a waiver by County of any other right or remedy it may have under the Franchise or Applicable Law, including its right to recover from Grantee any additional damages, losses, costs and expenses that are incurred by County by reason of the breach of this Franchise.

### 13.9 Effect of Abandonment

If the Grantee abandons its Cable System during the Franchise term, or fails to operate its Cable System in accordance with its duty to provide continuous service, the County, at its option, may operate the Cable System; designate another entity to operate the Cable System temporarily until the Grantee restores service under conditions acceptable to the County, or until the Franchise is revoked and a new franchisee is selected by the County; or obtain an injunction requiring the Grantee to continue operations. If the County is required to operate or designate another entity to operate the Cable System, the Grantee shall reimburse the County or its designee for all reasonable costs, expenses and damages incurred.

#### 13.10 What Constitutes Abandonment

The County shall be entitled to exercise its options in subsection 13.9 if:

- (A) The Grantee fails to provide Cable Service in accordance with this Franchise over a substantial portion of the Franchise Area for four (4) consecutive days, unless the County authorizes a longer interruption of service; or
- (B) The Grantee, for any period, willfully and without cause refuses to provide Cable Service in accordance with this Franchise.

# SECTION 14. FRANCHISE RENEWAL AND TRANSFER

#### 14.1 Renewal

(A) The County and Grantee agree that any proceedings undertaken by the County that relate to the renewal of the Franchise shall be governed by and comply with the provisions

of Section 626 of the Cable Act, unless the procedures and substantive protections set forth therein shall be deemed to be preempted and superseded by the provisions of any subsequent provision of federal or State law.

- (B) In addition to the procedures set forth in said Section 626(a), the County agrees to notify Grantee of the completion of its assessments regarding the identification of future cable-related community needs and interests, as well as the past performance of Grantee under the then current Franchise term. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary set forth herein, Grantee and County agree that at any time during the term of the then current Franchise, while affording the public adequate notice and opportunity for comment, the County and Grantee may agree to undertake and finalize negotiations regarding renewal of the then current Franchise and the County may grant a renewal thereof. Grantee and County consider the terms set forth in this subsection to be consistent with the express provisions of Section 626 of the Cable Act.
- (C) Should the Franchise expire without a mutually agreed upon renewed Franchise Agreement and Grantee and County are engaged in an informal or formal renewal process, the Franchise shall continue on a month-to-month basis, with the same terms and conditions as provided in the Franchise, and the Grantee and County shall continue to comply with all obligations and duties under the Franchise.

### 14.2 Transfer of Ownership or Control

- (A) The Cable System and this Franchise shall not be sold, assigned, transferred, leased or disposed of, either in whole or in part, either by involuntary sale or by voluntary sale, merger or consolidation; nor shall title thereto, either legal or equitable, or any right, interest or property therein pass to or vest in any Person or entity without the prior written consent of the County, which consent shall be by the Board, acting by ordinance or resolution.
- (B) The Grantee shall promptly notify the County of any actual or proposed change in, or transfer of, or acquisition by any other party of control of the Grantee. The word "control" as used herein is not limited to majority stockholders but includes actual working control in whatever manner exercised. Every change, transfer or acquisition of control of the Grantee shall make this Franchise subject to cancellation unless and until the County shall have consented in writing thereto.
- (C) The parties to the sale or transfer shall make a written request to the County for its approval of a sale or transfer and furnish all information required by law and the County.
- (D) In seeking the County's consent to any change in ownership or control, the proposed transferee shall indicate whether it:
  - (1) Has ever been convicted or held liable for acts involving deceit including any violation of federal, State or local law or regulations, or is currently under an indictment, investigation or complaint charging such acts;

- (2) Has ever had a judgment in an action for fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation entered against the proposed transferee by any court of competent jurisdiction;
- (3) Has pending any material legal claim, lawsuit, or administrative proceeding arising out of or involving a cable system or a broadband system;
- (4) Is financially solvent, by submitting financial data including financial statements that are audited by a certified public accountant who may also be an officer of the transferee, along with any other data that the County may reasonably require; and
- (5) Has the financial, legal and technical capability to enable it to maintain and operate the Cable System for the remaining term of the Franchise.
- (E) The County shall act by ordinance on the request within one hundred twenty (120) days of the request, provided it has received all information required by this Franchise and/or by Applicable Law. The County and the Grantee may by mutual agreement, at any time, extend the 120 day period. Subject to the foregoing, if the County fails to render a final decision on the request within one hundred twenty (120) days, such request shall be deemed granted unless the requesting party and the County agree to an extension of time.
- (F) Within thirty (30) days of any transfer or sale, if approved or deemed granted by the County, Grantee shall file with the County a copy of the deed, agreement, lease or other written instrument evidencing such sale or transfer of ownership or control, certified and sworn to as correct by Grantee and the transferee, and the transferee shall file its written acceptance agreeing to be bound by all of the provisions of this Franchise, subject to Applicable Law. In the event of a change in control, in which the Grantee is not replaced by another entity, the Grantee will continue to be bound by all of the provisions of the Franchise, subject to Applicable Law, and will not be required to file an additional written acceptance.
- (G) In reviewing a request for sale or transfer, the County may inquire into the legal, technical and financial qualifications of the prospective controlling party or transferee, and Grantee shall assist the County in so inquiring. The County may condition said sale or transfer upon such terms and conditions as it deems reasonably appropriate, in accordance with Applicable Law.
- (H) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this subsection, the prior approval of the County shall not be required for any sale, assignment or transfer of the Franchise or Cable System to an entity controlling, controlled by or under the same common control as Grantee, provided that the proposed assignee or transferee must show financial responsibility as may be determined necessary by the County and must agree in writing to comply with all of the provisions of the Franchise. Further, Grantee may pledge the assets of the Cable System for the purpose of financing without the consent of the County; provided that such pledge of assets shall not impair or mitigate Grantee's responsibilities and capabilities to meet all of its obligations

under the provisions of this Franchise.

#### **SECTION 15. SEVERABILITY**

If any Section, subsection, paragraph, term or provision of this Franchise is determined to be illegal, invalid or unconstitutional by any court or agency of competent jurisdiction, such determination shall have no effect on the validity of any other Section, subsection, paragraph, term or provision of this Franchise, all of which will remain in full force and effect for the term of the Franchise.

#### **SECTION 16. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS**

# 16.1 Preferential or Discriminatory Practices Prohibited

NO DISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT. In connection with the performance of work under this Franchise, the Grantee agrees not to refuse to hire, discharge, promote or demote, or discriminate in matters of compensation against any Person otherwise qualified, solely because of race, color, religion, national origin, gender, age, military status, sexual orientation, marital status, or physical or mental disability; and the Grantee further agrees to insert the foregoing provision in all subcontracts hereunder. Throughout the term of this Franchise, Grantee shall fully comply with all equal employment or non-discrimination provisions and requirements of federal, State and local laws, and in particular, FCC rules and regulations relating thereto.

### 16.2 Notices

Throughout the term of the Franchise, each party shall maintain and file with the other a local address for the service of notices by mail. All notices shall be sent overnight delivery postage prepaid to such respective address and such notices shall be effective upon the date of mailing. These addresses may be changed by the County or the Grantee by written notice at any time. At the Effective Date of this Franchise:

Grantee's address shall be:

Comcast of California/Colorado/Florida/Oregon, Inc., Comcast of California/Colorado/Illinois/Indiana/Michigan, LP, Comcast of Colorado IX, LLC, and Comcast of Colorado X, LLC 1899 Wynkoop St., Suite 550 Denver, CO 80202

Attn: Glenn Walker/External Affairs

### The County's address shall be:

Douglas County 100 Third Street Castle Rock, CO 80104 ATTN: Director of Public Affairs

### With a copy to:

Douglas County 100 Third Street Castle Rock, CO 80104 ATTN: County Attorney

### 16.3 Descriptive Headings

The headings and titles of the Sections and subsections of this Franchise are for reference purposes only, and shall not affect the meaning or interpretation of the text herein.

### 16.4 Publication Costs to be Borne by Grantee

Grantee shall reimburse the County for all costs incurred in publishing this Franchise, if such publication is required.

### 16.5 Binding Effect

This Franchise shall be binding upon the parties hereto, their permitted successors and assigns.

#### 16.6 No Joint Venture

Nothing herein shall be deemed to create a joint venture or principal-agent relationship between the parties, and neither party is authorized to, nor shall either party act toward third Persons or the public in any manner which would indicate any such relationship with the other.

#### 16.7 Waiver

The failure of the County at any time to require performance by the Grantee of any provision hereof shall in no way affect the right of the County hereafter to enforce the same. Nor shall the waiver by the County of any breach of any provision hereof be taken or held to be a waiver of any succeeding breach of such provision, or as a waiver of the provision itself or any other provision.

# 16.8 Reasonableness of Consent or Approval

Whenever under this Franchise "reasonableness" is the standard for the granting or denial of the consent or approval of either party hereto, such party shall be entitled to consider public and governmental policy, moral and ethical standards as well as business and economic considerations.

### 16.9 Entire Agreement

This Franchise and all Exhibits represent the entire understanding and agreement between the parties hereto with respect to the subject matter hereof and supersede all prior oral negotiations between the parties.

### 16.10 Jurisdiction

Sr. Assistant County Attorney

this Franchise shall be in Douglas County District Court, Castle Rock, Colorado, or in the Unite States District Court in Denver.		
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this Franchis Colorado this day of, 2017.	se is signed in the name of the Douglas County,	
ATTEST:	DOUGLAS COUNTY, COLORADO:	
County Clerk	Roger A. Partridge, Chair	
APPROVED AS TO FORM:	RECOMMENDED AND APPROVED:	
Dawn Johnson	Doug DeBord	

County Manager

Accepted and approved this	_day of, 2017.
ATTEST:	COMCAST OF CALIFORNIA/COLORADO/ FLORIDA/OREGON, INC., COMCAST OF CALIFORNIA/COLORADO/ILLINOIS/ INDIANA/MICHIGAN, LP, COMCAST OF COLORADO IX, LLC AND COMCAST OF
Public Notary	COLORADO X, LLC
	Name/Title:

# EXHIBIT A: CUSTOMER SERVICE STANDARDS

### Douglas County, Colorado Cable Customer Service Standards

#### I. POLICY

The Cable Operator should resolve citizen complaints without delay and interference from the Franchising Authority.

Where a given complaint is not addressed by the Cable Operator to the citizen's satisfaction, the Franchising Authority should intervene. In addition, where a pattern of unremedied complaints or noncompliance with the Standards is identified, the Franchising Authority should prescribe a cure and establish a reasonable deadline for implementation of the cure. If the noncompliance is not cured within established deadlines, monetary sanctions should be imposed to encourage compliance and deter future non-compliance.

These Standards are intended to be of general application, and are expected to be met under normal operating conditions; however, the Cable Operator shall be relieved of any obligations hereunder if it is unable to perform due to a region-wide natural emergency or in the event of force majeure affecting a significant portion of the franchise area. The Cable Operator is free to exceed these Standards to the benefit of its Customers and such shall be considered performance for the purposes of these Standards.

These Standards supercede any contradictory or inconsistent provision in federal, state or local law (Source: 47 U.S.C. § 552(a)(1) and (d)), provided, however, that any provision in federal, state or local law, or in any original franchise agreement or renewal agreement, that imposes a higher obligation or requirement than is imposed by these Standards, shall not be considered contradictory or inconsistent with these Standards. In the event of a conflict between these Standards and a Franchise Agreement, the Franchise Agreement shall control.

These Standards apply to the provision of any Cable Service, provided by a Cable Operator over a Cable System, within Douglas County, Colorado.

#### II. DEFINITIONS

When used in these Customer Service Standards (the "Standards"), the following words, phrases, and terms shall have the meanings given below.

- "Adoption" shall mean the process necessary to formally enact the Standards within the Franchising Authority's jurisdiction under applicable ordinances and laws.
- "Affiliate" shall mean any person or entity that is owned or controlled by, or under common ownership or control with, a Cable Operator, and provides any Cable Service or Other Service.
- "Applicable Law" means, with respect to these standards and any Cable Operator's privacy policies, any statute, ordinance, judicial decision, executive order or regulation having the force and effect of law, that determines the legal standing of a case or issue.

"Cable Operator" shall mean any person or group of persons (A) who provides Cable Service over a Cable System and directly or through one or more affiliates owns a significant interest in such cable system, or (B) who otherwise controls or is responsible for, through any arrangement, the management and operation of such a Cable System. Source: 47 U.S.C. § 522(5).

"Cable Service" shall mean (A) the one-way transmission to subscribers of (i) video programming, or (ii) other programming service, and (B) subscriber interaction, if any, which is required for the selection or use of such video programming or other programming service. Source: 47 U.S.C. § 522(6). For purposes of this definition, "video programming" is programming provided by, or generally considered comparable to programming provided by a television broadcast station. Source: 47 U.S.C. § 522(20). "Other programming service" is information that a Cable Operator makes available to all subscribers generally. Source: 47 U.S.C. § 522(14).

"Cable System" shall mean a facility, consisting of a set of closed transmission paths and associated signal generation, reception, and control equipment that is designed to provide Cable Service which includes video programming and which is provided to multiple subscribers within a community, but such term does not include (A) a facility that serves only to retransmit the televisions signals of one or more television broadcast stations, or (B) a facility that serves subscribers without using any public right of way. Source: 47 U.S.C. § 522(7).

"County" shall mean Douglas County, Colorado.

"Colorado Communications and Utilities Alliance" or "CCUA" shall mean an association comprised primarily of local governmental subdivisions of the State of Colorado, or any successor entity. The CCUA may, on behalf of its members, be delegated the authority to review, investigate or otherwise take some related role in the administration and/or enforcement of any functions under these Standards.

"Contractor" shall mean a person or entity that agrees by contract to furnish materials or perform services for another at a specified consideration.

"Customer" shall mean any person who receives any Cable Service from a Cable Operator.

"Customer Service Representative" (or "CSR") shall mean any person employed with or under contract or subcontract to a Cable Operator to assist, or provide service to, customers, whether by telephone, writing service or installation orders, answering customers' questions in person, receiving and processing payments, or performing any other customer service-related tasks.

"Escalated complaint" shall mean a complaint that is referred to a Cable Operator by the Franchising Authority.

"Franchising Authority" shall mean the County.

"Necessary" shall mean required or indispensable.

"Non-cable-related purpose" shall mean any purpose that is not necessary to render or conduct a legitimate business activity related to a Cable Service or Other Service provided by a Cable Operator to a Customer. Market research, telemarketing, and other marketing of services or products that are not

related to a Cable Service or Other Service provided by a Cable Operator to a Customer shall be considered Non-cable-related purposes.

"Normal business hours" shall mean those hours during which most similar businesses in the community are open to serve customers. In all cases, "normal business hours" must include at least some evening hours one night per week, and include some weekend hours. Source: 47 C.F.R. § 76.309.

"Normal operating conditions" shall mean those service conditions which are within the control of a Cable Operator. Conditions which are not within the control of a Cable Operator include, but are not necessarily limited to, natural disasters, civil disturbances, power outages, telephone network outages, and severe or unusual weather conditions. Conditions which are ordinarily within the control of a Cable Operator include, but are not necessarily limited to, special promotions, pay-per-view events, rate increases, regular peak or seasonal demand periods and maintenance or upgrade to the Cable System.

"Other Service(s)" shall mean any wire or radio communications service provided using any of the facilities of a Cable Operator that are used in the provision of Cable Service.

"Personally Identifiable Information" shall mean specific information about an identified Customer, including, but not be limited to, a Customer's (a) login information for the use of Cable Service and management of a Customer's Cable Service account, (b) extent of viewing of video programming or Other Services, (c) shopping choices, (d) interests and opinions, (e) energy uses, (f) medical information, (g) banking data or information, or (h) any other personal or private information. "Personally Identifiable Information" shall not mean any aggregate information about Customers which does not identify particular persons, or information gathered by a Cable Operator necessary to install, repair or service equipment or Cable System facilities at a Customer's premises.

"Service interruption" or "interruption" shall mean (i) the loss or substantial impairment of picture and/or sound on one or more cable television channels.

"Service outage" or "outage" shall mean a loss or substantial impairment in reception on all channels.

"Subcontractor" shall mean a person or entity that enters into a contract to perform part or all of the obligations of another's contract.

"Writing" or "written" as the term applies to notification shall include electronic communications.

Any terms not specifically defined in these Standards shall be given their ordinary meaning, or where otherwise defined in applicable federal law, such terms shall be interpreted consistent with those definitions.

#### III. CUSTOMER SERVICE

### A. Courtesy

Cable Operator employees, contractors and subcontractors shall be courteous, knowledgeable and helpful and shall provide effective and satisfactory service in all contacts with customers.

## **B.** Accessibility

1. A Cable Operator shall provide customer service centers/business offices ("Service Centers") which are conveniently located, and which are open during Normal Business Hours. Service Centers shall be fully staffed with Customer Service Representatives offering the following services to Customers who come to the Service Center: bill payment, equipment exchange, processing of change of service requests, and response to Customer inquiries and request.

Unless otherwise requested by the County, a Cable Operator shall post a sign at each Service Center, visible from the outside of the Service Center, advising Customers of its hours of operation and of the telephone number at which to contact the Cable Operator if the Service Center is not open at the times posted.

The Cable Operator shall use commercially reasonable efforts to implement and promote "self-help" tools and technology, in order to respond to the growing demand of Customers who wish to interact with the Cable Operator on the Customer's own terms and timeline and at their own convenience, without having to travel to a Service Center. Without limitation, examples of self-help tools or technology may include self-installation kits to Customers upon request; pre-paid mailers for the return of equipment upon Customer request; an automated phone option for Customer bill payments; and equipment exchanges at a Customer's residence in the event of damaged equipment. A Cable Operator shall provide free exchanges of faulty equipment at the customer's address if the equipment has not been damaged in any manner due to the fault or negligence of the customer.

- 2. A Cable Operator shall maintain local telephone access lines that shall be available twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days a week for service/repair requests and billing/service inquiries.
- 3. A Cable Operator shall have dispatchers and technicians on call twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days a week, including legal holidays.
- 4. If a customer service telephone call is answered with a recorded message providing the customer with various menu options to address the customer's concern, the recorded message must provide the customer the option to connect to and speak with a CSR within sixty (60) seconds of the commencement of the recording. During Normal Business Hours, a Cable Operator shall retain sufficient customer service representatives and telephone line capacity to ensure that telephone calls to technical service/repair and billing/service inquiry lines are answered by a customer service representative within thirty (30) seconds or less from the time a customer chooses a menu option to speak directly with a CSR or chooses a menu option that pursuant to the automated voice message, leads to a direct connection with a CSR. Under normal operating conditions, this thirty (30) second telephone answer time requirement standard shall be met no less than ninety (90) percent of the time measured quarterly.
- 5. Under normal operating conditions, a customer shall not receive a busy signal more than three percent (3%) of the time. This standard shall be met ninety (90) percent or more of the time, measured quarterly.

## C. Responsiveness

## 1. Guaranteed Seven-Day Residential Installation

- a. A Cable Operator shall complete all standard residential installations or modifications to service requested by customers within seven (7) business days after the order is placed, unless a later date for installation is requested. "Standard" residential installations are those located up to one hundred twenty five (125) feet from the existing distribution system. If the customer requests a nonstandard residential installation, or the Cable Operator determines that a nonstandard residential installation is required, the Cable Operator shall provide the customer in advance with a total installation cost estimate and an estimated date of completion.
- b. All underground cable drops to the home shall be buried at a depth of no less than twelve inches (12"), or such other depth as may be required by the Franchise Agreement or local code provisions, or if there are no applicable Franchise or code requirements, at such other depths as may be agreed to by the parties if other construction concerns preclude the twelve inch requirement, and within no more than one calendar week from the initial installation, or at a time mutually agreed upon between the Cable Operator and the customer.

# 2. Residential Installation and Service Appointments

- a. The "appointment window" alternatives for specific installations, service calls, and/or other installation activities will be either a specific time, or at a maximum, a four (4) hour time block between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m., six (6) days per week. A Cable Operator may schedule service calls and other installation activities outside of the above days and hours for the express convenience of customers. For purposes of this subsection "appointment window" means the period of time in which the representative of the Cable Operator must arrive at the customer's location.
- b. A Cable Operator may not cancel an appointment with a customer after the close of business on the business day prior to the scheduled appointment, unless the customer's issue has otherwise been resolved.
- c. If a Cable Operator is running late for an appointment with a customer and will not be able to keep the appointment as scheduled, the Cable Operator shall take reasonable efforts to contact the customer promptly, but in no event later than the end of the appointment window. The appointment will be rescheduled, as necessary at a time that is convenient to the customer, within Normal Business Hours or as may be otherwise agreed to between the customer and Cable Operator.
- d. A Cable Operator shall be deemed to have responded to a request for service under the provisions of this section when a technician arrives within the agreed upon time, and, if the customer is absent when the technician arrives, the technician leaves written notification of arrival and return time, and a copy of that notification is kept by the Cable Operator. In such circumstances, the Cable Operator shall contact the customer within forty-eight (48) hours.

## 3. Residential Service Interruptions

a. In the event of system outages resulting from Cable Operator equipment failure, the Cable Operator shall correct such failure within 2 hours after the 3rd customer call is received.

b. All other service interruptions resulting from Cable Operator equipment failure shall be corrected by the Cable Operator by the end of the next calendar day.

## c. Records of Complaints.

- i. A Cable Operator shall keep an accurate and comprehensive file of any complaints regarding the cable system or its operation of the cable system, in a manner consistent with the privacy rights of customers, and the Cable Operator's actions in response to those complaints. These files shall remain available for viewing by the Franchising Authority during normal business hours at the Cable Operator's business office, and shall be retained by the Cable Operator for a period of at least three (3) years.
- ii. Upon written request a Cable Operator shall provide the Franchising Authority an executive summary quarterly, which shall include information concerning customer complaints referred by the Franchising Authority to the Grantee and any other requirements of a Franchise Agreement but no personally identifiable information. These summaries shall be provided within fifteen (15) days after the end of each quarter. Once a request is made, it need not be repeated and quarterly executive summaries shall be provided by the Cable Operator until notified in writing by the Franchising Authority that such summaries are no longer required.
- iii. Upon written request a summary of service requests, identifying the number and nature of the requests and their disposition, shall also be completed by the Cable Operator for each quarter and submitted to the Franchising Authority by the fifteenth (15th) day of the month after each calendar quarter. Once a request is made, it need not be repeated and quarterly summary of service requests shall be provided by the Cable Operator until notified in writing by the Franchising Authority that such summaries are no longer required. Complaints shall be broken out by the nature of the complaint and the type of Cable service subject to the complaint.
- d. Records of Service Interruptions and Outages. A Cable Operator shall maintain records of all outages and reported service interruptions. Such records shall indicate the type of cable service interrupted, including the reasons for the interruptions. A log of all service interruptions shall be maintained and provided to the Franchising Authority quarterly, upon written request, within fifteen (15) days after the end of each quarter. Such records shall be submitted to the Franchising Authority with the records identified in Section 3.c.ii above if so requested in writing, and shall be retained by the Cable Operator for a period of three (3) years.
- e. All service outages and interruptions for any cause beyond the control of the Cable Operator shall be corrected within thirty-six (36) hours, after the conditions beyond its control have been corrected.

## 4. TV Reception

a. A Cable Operator shall provide clear television reception that meets or exceeds technical standards established by the United States Federal Communications Commission (the "FCC"). A Cable Operator shall render efficient service, make repairs promptly, and interrupt service only for good cause and for the shortest time possible. Scheduled interruptions shall be preceded by notice and shall occur during periods of minimum use of the system, preferably between midnight and six a.m. (6:00 a.m.).

b. If a customer experiences poor video or audio reception attributable to a Cable Operator's equipment, the Cable Operator shall:

- i. Assess the problem within one (1) day of notification;
- ii. Communicate with the customer regarding the nature of the problem and the expected time for repair;
- iii. Complete the repair within two (2) days of assessing the problem unless circumstances exist that reasonably require additional time.
- c. If an appointment is necessary to address any video or audio reception problem, the customer may choose a block of time described in Section III.C.2.a. At the customer's request, the Cable Operator shall repair the problem at a later time convenient to the customer, during Normal Business Hours or at such other time as may be agreed to by the customer and Cable Operator. A Cable Operator shall maintain periodic communications with a customer during the time period in which problem ascertainment and repair are ongoing, so that the customer is advised of the status of the Cable Operator's efforts to address the problem.

#### 5. Problem Resolution

A Cable Operator's customer service representatives shall have the authority to provide credit for interrupted service, to waive fees, to schedule service appointments and to change billing cycles, where appropriate. Any difficulties that cannot be resolved by the customer service representative shall be referred to the appropriate supervisor who shall contact the customer within four (4) hours and resolve the problem within forty eight (48) hours or within such other time frame as is acceptable to the customer and the Cable Operator.

#### 6. Billing, Credits, and Refunds

- a. In addition to other options for payment of a customer's service bill, a Cable Operator shall make available a telephone payment option where a customer without account irregularities can enter payment information through an automated system, without the necessity of speaking to a CSR.
- b. A Cable Operator shall allow at least thirty (30) days from the beginning date of the applicable service period for payment of a customer's service bill for that period. If a customer's service bill is not paid within that period of time the Cable Operator may apply an administrative fee to the customer's account. The administrative fee must reflect the average costs incurred by the Cable Operator in attempting to collect the past due payment in accordance with applicable law. If the customer's service bill is not paid within forty-five (45) days of the beginning date of the applicable service period, the Cable Operator may perform a "soft" disconnect of the customer's service. If a customer's service bill is not paid within fifty-two (52) days of the beginning date of the applicable service period, the Cable Operator may disconnect the customer's service, provided it has provided two (2) weeks notice to the customer that such disconnection may result.
- c. The Cable Operator shall issue a credit or refund to a customer within 30 days after determining the customer's entitlement to a credit or refund.

d. Whenever the Cable Operator offers any promotional or specially priced service(s) its promotional materials shall clearly identify and explain the specific terms of the promotion, including but not limited to manner in which any payment credit will be applied.

## 7. Treatment of Property

To the extent that a Franchise Agreement does not contain the following procedures for treatment of property, Operator shall comply with the procedures set forth in this Section.

- a. A Cable Operator shall keep tree trimming to a minimum; trees and shrubs or other landscaping that are damaged by a Cable Operator, any employee or agent of a Cable Operator during installation or construction shall be restored to their prior condition or replaced within seven (7) days, unless seasonal conditions require a longer time, in which case such restoration or replacement shall be made within seven (7) days after conditions permit. Trees and shrubs on private property shall not be removed without the prior permission of the owner or legal tenant of the property on which they are located. This provision shall be in addition to, and shall not supersede, any requirement in any franchise agreement.
- b. A Cable Operator shall, at its own cost and expense, and in a manner approved by the property owner and the Franchising Authority, restore any private property to as good condition as before the work causing such disturbance was initiated. A Cable Operator shall repair, replace or compensate a property owner for any damage resulting from the Cable Operator's installation, construction, service or repair activities. If compensation is requested by the customer for damage caused by any Cable Operator activity, the Cable Operator shall reimburse the property owner one hundred (100) percent of the actual cost of the damage.
- c. Except in the case of an emergency involving public safety or service interruption to a large number of customers, a Cable Operator shall give reasonable notice to property owners or legal tenants prior to entering upon private premises, and the notice shall specify the work to be performed; provided that in the case of construction operations such notice shall be delivered or provided at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to entry, unless such notice is waived by the customer. For purposes of this subsection, "reasonable notice" shall be considered:
  - i. For pedestal installation or similar major construction, seven (7) days.
  - ii. For routine maintenance, such as adding or dropping service, tree trimming and the like, reasonable notice given the circumstances. Unless a Franchise Agreement has a different requirement, reasonable notice shall require, at a minimum, prior notice to a property owner or tenant, before entry is made onto that person's property.
  - iii. For emergency work a Cable Operator shall attempt to contact the property owner or legal tenant in person, and shall leave a door hanger notice in the event personal contact is not made. Door hangars must describe the issue and provide contact information where the property owner or tenant can receive more information about the emergency work.

Nothing herein shall be construed as authorizing access or entry to private property, or any other property, where such right to access or entry is not otherwise provided by law.

d. Cable Operator personnel shall clean all areas surrounding any work site and ensure that all cable materials have been disposed of properly.

#### D. Services for Customers with Disabilities

- 1. For any customer with a disability, a Cable Operator shall deliver and pick up equipment at customers' homes at no charge unless the malfunction was caused by the actions of the customer. In the case of malfunctioning equipment, the technician shall provide replacement equipment, hook it up and ensure that it is working properly, and shall return the defective equipment to the Cable Operator.
- 2. A Cable Operator shall provide either TTY, TDD, TYY, VRS service or other similar service that are in compliance with the Americans With Disabilities Act and other applicable law, with trained operators who can provide every type of assistance rendered by the Cable Operator's customer service representatives for any hearing-impaired customer at no charge.
- 3. A Cable Operator shall provide free use of a remote control unit to mobility-impaired (if disabled, in accordance with Section III.D.4) customers.
- 4. Any customer with a disability may request the special services described above by providing a Cable Operator with a letter from the customer's physician stating the need, or by making the request to the Cable Operator's installer or service technician, where the need for the special services can be visually confirmed.

#### E. Cable Services Information

- 1. At any time a customer or prospective customer may request, a Cable Operator shall provide the following information, in clear, concise written form, easily accessible and located on Cable Operator's website (and in Spanish, when requested by the customer):
  - a. Products and services offered by the Cable Operator, including its channel lineup;
  - b. The Cable Operator's complete range of service options and the prices for these services;
  - c. The Cable Operator's billing, collection and disconnection policies;
  - d. Privacy rights of customers;
- e. All applicable complaint procedures, including complaint forms and the telephone numbers and mailing addresses of the Cable Operator, and the FCC;
  - f. Use and availability of parental control/lock out device;
  - g. Special services for customers with disabilities;
  - h. Days, times of operation, and locations of the service centers;

2. At a Customer's request, a Cable Operator shall make available either a complete copy of these Standards and any other applicable customer service standards, or a summary of these Standards, in a format to be approved by CCUA and the Franchising Authority, which shall include at a minimum, the URL address of a website containing these Standards in their entirety; provided however, that if the CCUA or Franchising Authority does not maintain a website with a complete copy of these Standards, a Cable Operator shall be under no obligation to do so;

If acceptable to a customer, Cable Operator may fulfill customer requests for any of the information listed in this Section by making the requested information available electronically, such as on a website or by electronic mail.

- 3. Upon written request, a Cable Operator shall meet annually with the Franchising Authority to review the format of the Cable Operator's bills to customers. Whenever the Cable Operator makes substantial changes to its billing format, it will contact the Franchising Authority at least thirty (30) days prior to the time such changes are to be effective, in order to inform the Franchising Authority of such changes.
- 4. Copies of notices provided to the customer in accordance with subsection 5 below shall be filed (by fax or email acceptable) concurrently with the Franchising Authority and the CCUA.
- 5. A Cable Operator shall provide customers with written notification of any change in rates for nondiscretionary cable services, and for service tier changes that result in a deletion of programming from a customer's service tier, at least thirty (30) days before the effective date of change. For purposes of this section, "nondiscretionary" means the subscribed tier and any other Cable Services that a customer has subscribed to, at the time the change in rates are announced by the Cable Operator.
- 6. All officers, agents, and employees of the Cable Operator or its contractors or subcontractors who are in personal contact with customers and/or when working on public property, shall wear on their outer clothing identification cards bearing their name and photograph and identifying them as representatives of the Cable Operator. The Cable Operator shall account for all identification cards at all times. Every vehicle of the Cable Operator shall be clearly visually identified to the public as working for the Cable Operator. Whenever a Cable Operator work crew is in personal contact with customers or public employees, a supervisor must be able to communicate clearly with the customer or public employee. Every vehicle of a subcontractor or contractor shall be labeled with the name of the contractor and further identified as contracting or subcontracting for the Cable Operator.
- 7. Each CSR, technician or employee of the Cable Operator in each contact with a customer shall state the estimated cost of the service, repair, or installation orally prior to delivery of the service or before any work is performed, and shall provide the customer with an oral statement of the total charges before terminating the telephone call or before leaving the location at which the work was performed. A written estimate of the charges shall be provided to the customer before the actual work is performed.

#### F. Customer Privacy

1. <u>Cable Customer Privacy</u>. In addition to complying with the requirements in this subsection, a Cable Operator shall fully comply with all obligations under 47 U.S.C. Section 551.

# 2. Collection and Use of Personally Identifiable Information.

- a. A Cable Operator shall not use the Cable System to collect, monitor or observe Personally Identifiable Information without the prior affirmative written or electronic consent of the Customer unless, and only to the extent that such information is: (i) used to detect unauthorized reception of cable communications, or (ii) necessary to render a Cable Service or Other Service provided by the Cable Operator to the Customer and as otherwise authorized by applicable law.
- b. A Cable Operator shall take such actions as are necessary using then-current industry standard practices to prevent any Affiliate from using the facilities of the Cable Operator in any manner, including, but not limited to, sending data or other signals through such facilities, to the extent such use will permit an Affiliate unauthorized access to Personally Identifiable Information on equipment of a Customer (regardless of whether such equipment is owned or leased by the Customer or provided by a Cable Operator) or on any of the facilities of the Cable Operator that are used in the provision of Cable Service. This subsection F.2.b shall not be interpreted to prohibit an Affiliate from obtaining access to Personally Identifiable Information to the extent otherwise permitted by this subsection F.
- c. A Cable Operator shall take such actions as are necessary using then-current industry standard practices to prevent a person or entity (other than an Affiliate) from using the facilities of the Cable Operator in any manner, including, but not limited to, sending data or other signals through such facilities, to the extent such use will permit such person or entity unauthorized access to Personally Identifiable Information on equipment of a Customer (regardless of whether such equipment is owned or leased by the Customer or provided by a Cable Operator) or on any of the facilities of the Cable Operator that are used in the provision of Cable Service.
- 3. <u>Disclosure of Personally Identifiable Information</u>. A Cable Operator shall not disclose Personally Identifiable Information without the prior affirmative written or electronic consent of the Customer, unless otherwise authorized by applicable law.
- a. A minimum of thirty (30) days prior to making any disclosure of Personally Identifiable Information of any Customer for any Non-Cable related purpose as provided in this subsection F.3.a, where such Customer has not previously been provided the notice and choice provided for in subsection III.F.9, the Cable Operator shall notify each Customer (that the Cable Operator intends to disclose information about) of the Customer's right to prohibit the disclosure of such information for Non-cable related purposes. The notice to Customers may reference the Customer to his or her options to state a preference for disclosure or non-disclosure of certain information, as provided in subsection III.F.10.
- b. A Cable Operator may disclose Personally Identifiable Information only to the extent that it is necessary to render, or conduct a legitimate business activity related to, a Cable Service or Other Service provided by the Cable Operator to the Customer.
- c. To the extent authorized by applicable law, a Cable Operator may disclose Personally Identifiable Information pursuant to a subpoena, court order, warrant or other valid legal process authorizing such disclosure.
- 4. Access to Information. Any Personally Identifiable Information collected and maintained by a Cable Operator shall be made available for Customer examination within thirty (30) days of receiving a request by a Customer to examine such information about himself or herself at the local offices of the

Cable Operator or other convenient place within the County designated by the Cable Operator, or electronically, such as over a website. Upon a reasonable showing by the Customer that such Personally Identifiable Information is inaccurate, a Cable Operator shall correct such information.

## 5. Privacy Notice to Customers

- a. A Cable Operator shall annually mail or provide a separate, written or electronic copy of the privacy statement to Customers consistent with 47 U.S.C. Section 551(a)(1), and shall provide a Customer a copy of such statement at the time the Cable Operator enters into an agreement with the Customer to provide Cable Service. The written notice shall be in a clear and conspicuous format, which at a minimum, shall be in a comparable font size to other general information provided to Customers about their account as it appears on either paper or electronic Customer communications.
- b. In or accompanying the statement required by subsection F.5.a, a Cable Operator shall state substantially the following message regarding the disclosure of Customer information: "Unless a Customer affirmatively consents electronically or in writing to the disclosure of personally identifiable information, any disclosure of personally identifiable information for purposes other than to the extent necessary to render, or conduct a legitimate business activity related to, a Cable Service or Other Service, is limited to:
  - i. Disclosure pursuant to valid legal process authorized by applicable law.
  - ii. Disclosure of the name and address of a Customer subscribing to any general programming tiers of service and other categories of Cable Services provided by the Cable Operator that do not directly or indirectly disclose: (A) A Customer's extent of viewing of a Cable Service or Other Service provided by the Cable Operator; (B) The extent of any other use by a Customer of a Cable Service; (C) The nature of any transactions made by a Customer over the Cable System; or (D) The nature of programming or websites that a Customer subscribes to or views (i.e., a Cable Operator may only disclose the fact that a person subscribes to a general tier of service, or a package of channels with the same type of programming), provided that with respect to the nature of websites subscribed to or viewed, these are limited to websites accessed by a Customer in connection with programming available from their account for Cable Services."

The notice shall also inform the Customers of their right to prohibit the disclosure of their names and addresses in accordance with subsection F.3.a. If a Customer exercises his or her right to prohibit the disclosure of name and address as provided in subsection F.3.a or this subsection, such prohibition against disclosure shall remain in effect, unless and until the Customer subsequently changes their disclosure preferences as described in subsection F.9 below.

- 6. <u>Privacy Reporting Requirements</u>. The Cable Operator shall include in its regular periodic reports to the Franchising Authority required by its Franchise Agreement information summarizing:
- a. The type of Personally Identifiable Information that was actually collected or disclosed by Cable Operator during the reporting period;

- b. For each type of Personally Identifiable Information collected or disclosed, a statement from an authorized representative of the Cable Operator certifying that the Personally Identifiable Information collected or disclosed was: (A) collected or disclosed to the extent Necessary to render, or conduct a legitimate business activity related to, a Cable Service or Other Service provided by the Cable Operator; (B) used to the extent Necessary to detect unauthorized reception of cable communications: (C) disclosed pursuant to valid legal process authorized by applicable law; or (D) a disclosure of Personally Identifiable Information of particular subscribers, but only to the extent affirmatively consented to by such subscribers in writing or electronically, or as otherwise authorized by applicable law.
- c. The standard industrial classification (SIC) codes or comparable identifiers pertaining to any entities to whom such Personally Identifiable Information was disclosed, except that a Cable Operator need not provide the name of any court or governmental entity to which such disclosure was made pursuant to valid legal process authorized by applicable law;
- d. The general measures that have been taken to prevent the unauthorized access to Personally Identifiable Information by a person other than the Customer or the Cable Operator. A Cable Operator shall meet with Franchising Authority if requested to discuss technology used to prohibit unauthorized access to Personally Identifiable Information by any means.
- 7. Nothing in this subsection III.F shall be construed to prevent the Franchising Authority from obtaining Personally Identifiable Information to the extent not prohibited by Section 631 of the Communications Act, 47 U.S.C. Section 551 and applicable laws.
- 8. Destruction of Personally Identifiable Information. A Cable Operator shall destroy any Personally Identifiable Information if the information is no longer necessary for the purpose for which it was collected and there are no pending requests or orders for access to such information under subsection 4 of this subsection III.F, pursuant to a court order or other valid legal process, or pursuant to applicable law.
- 9. Notice and Choice for Customers. The Cable Operator shall at all times make available to Customers one or more methods for Customers to use to prohibit or limit disclosures, or permit or release disclosures, as provided for in this subsection III.F. These methods may include, for example, online website "preference center" features, automated toll-free telephone systems, live toll-free telephone interactions with customer service agents, in-person interactions with customer service personnel, regular mail methods such as a postage paid, self-addressed post card, an insert included with the Customer's monthly bill for Cable Service, the privacy notice specified in subsection III.F.5, or such other comparable methods as may be provided by the Cable Operator. Website "preference center" features shall be easily identifiable and navigable by Customers, and shall be in a comparable size font as other billing information provided to Customers on a Cable Operator's website. A Customer who provides the Cable Operator with permission to disclose Personally Identifiable Information through any of the methods offered by a Cable Operator shall be provided follow-up notice, no less than annually, of the Customer's right to prohibit these disclosures and the options for the Customer to express his or her preference regarding disclosures. Such notice shall, at a minimum, be provided by an insert in the Cable Operator's bill (or other direct mail piece) to the Customer or a notice or message printed on the Cable Operator's bill to the Customer, and on the Cable Operator's website when a Customer logs in to view his or her Cable Service account options. The form of such notice shall also be provided on an annual basis to the Franchising Authority. These methods of notification to Customers may also include other

comparable methods as submitted by the Cable Operator and approved by the Franchising Authority in its reasonable discretion.

#### G. Safety

A Cable Operator shall install and locate its facilities, cable system, and equipment in compliance with all federal, state, local, and company safety standards, and in such manner as shall not unduly interfere with or endanger persons or property. Whenever a Cable Operator receives notice that an unsafe condition exists with respect to its equipment, the Cable Operator shall investigate such condition immediately, and shall take such measures as are necessary to remove or eliminate any unsafe condition.

#### H. Cancellation of New Services

In the event that a new customer requests installation of Cable Service and is unsatisfied with their initial Cable Service, and provided that the customer so notifies the Cable Operator of their dissatisfaction within 30 days of initial installation, then such customer can request disconnection of Cable Service within 30 days of initial installation, and the Cable Operator shall provide a credit to the customer's account consistent with this Section. The customer will be required to return all equipment in good working order; provided such equipment is returned in such order, then the Cable Operator shall refund the monthly recurring fee for the new customer's first 30 days of Cable Service and any charges paid for installation. This provision does not apply to existing customers who request upgrades to their Cable Service, to discretionary Cable Service such as PPV or movies purchased and viewed On Demand, or to customer moves and/or transfers of Cable Service. The service credit shall be provided in the next billing cycle.

## IV. COMPLAINT PROCEDURE

## A. Complaints to a Cable Operator

- 1. A Cable Operator shall establish written procedures for receiving, acting upon, and resolving customer complaints, and crediting customer accounts and shall have such procedures printed and disseminated at the Cable Operator's sole expense, consistent with Section III.E.1.e of these Standards.
- 2. Said written procedures shall prescribe a simple manner in which any customer may submit a complaint by telephone or in writing to a Cable Operator that it has violated any provision of these Customer Service Standards, any terms or conditions of the customer's contract with the Cable Operator, or reasonable business practices. If a representative of the Franchising Authority notifies the Cable Operator of a customer complaint that has not previously been made by the customer to the Cable Operator, the complaint shall be deemed to have been made by the customer as of the date of the Franchising Authority's notice to the Cable Operator.
- 3. At the conclusion of the Cable Operator's investigation of a customer complaint, but in no more than ten (10) calendar days after receiving the complaint, the Cable Operator shall notify the customer of the results of its investigation and its proposed action or credit.
- 4. A Cable Operator shall also notify the customer of the customer's right to file a complaint with the Franchising Authority in the event the customer is dissatisfied with the Cable Operator's decision, and

shall thoroughly explain the necessary procedures for filing such complaint with the Franchising Authority.

- 5. A Cable Operator shall immediately report all customer Escalated complaints that it does not find valid to the Franchising Authority.
- 6. A Cable Operator's complaint procedures shall be filed with the Franchising Authority prior to implementation.

## B. Complaints to the Franchising Authority

- 1. Any customer who is dissatisfied with any proposed decision of the Cable Operator or who has not received a decision within the time period set forth below shall be entitled to have the complaint reviewed by the Franchising Authority.
- 2. The customer may initiate the review either by calling the Franchising Authority or by filing a written complaint together with the Cable Operator's written decision, if any, with the Franchising Authority.
- 3. The customer shall make such filing and notification within twenty (20) days of receipt of the Cable Operator's decision or, if no decision has been provided, within thirty (30) days after filing the original complaint with the Cable Operator.
- 4. If the Franchising Authority decides that further evidence is warranted, the Franchising Authority shall require the Cable Operator and the customer to submit, within ten (10) days of notice thereof, a written statement of the facts and arguments in support of their respective positions.
- 5. The Cable Operator and the customer shall produce any additional evidence, including any reports from the Cable Operator, which the Franchising Authority may deem necessary to an understanding and determination of the complaint.
- 6. The Franchising Authority shall issue a determination within fifteen (15) days of receiving the customer complaint, or after examining the materials submitted, setting forth its basis for the determination.
- 7. The Franchising Authority may extend these time limits for reasonable cause and may intercede and attempt to negotiate an informal resolution.

#### C. Security Fund or Letter of Credit

A Cable operator shall comply with any Franchise Agreement regarding Letters of Credit. If a Franchise Agreement is silent on Letter of Credit the following shall apply:

1. Within thirty (30) days of the written notification to a Cable Operator by the Franchising Authority that an alleged Franchise violation exists, a Cable Operator shall deposit with an escrow agent approved by the Franchising Authority fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) or, in the sole discretion of the Franchising Authority, such lesser amount as the Franchising Authority deems reasonable to protect subscribers within its jurisdiction. Alternatively, at the Cable Operator's discretion, it may provide to the Franchising Authority an irrevocable letter of credit in the same amount. A letter of credit or cash

deposit, with the approval of the Franchising Authority, may be posted jointly for more than one member of the CCUA, and may be administered, and drawn upon, jointly by the CCUA or drawn upon individually by each member; provided however that if such letter of credit or cash deposit is provided to CCUA on behalf of more than one of its members, the letter of credit or cash deposit may, in the sole discretion of CCUA and its effected members, be required in an amount not to exceed one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000).

The escrowed funds or letter of credit shall constitute the "Security Fund" for ensuring compliance with these Standards for the benefit of the Franchising Authority. The escrowed funds or letter of credit shall be maintained by a Cable Operator at the amount initially required, even if amounts are withdrawn pursuant to any provision of these Standards, until any claims related to the alleged Franchise violation(s) are paid in full.

- 2. The Franchising Authority may require the Cable Operator to increase the amount of the Security Fund, if it finds that new risk factors exist which necessitate such an increase.
- 3. The Security Fund shall serve as security for the payment of any penalties, fees, charges or credits as provided for herein and for the performance by a Cable Operator of all its obligations under these Customer Service Standards.
- 4. The rights reserved to the Franchising Authority with respect to the Security Fund are in addition to all other rights of the Franchising Authority, whether reserved by any applicable franchise agreement or authorized by law, and no action, proceeding or exercise of a right with respect to same shall in any way affect, or diminish, any other right the Franchising Authority may otherwise have.

## D. Verification of Compliance

A Cable Operator shall establish its compliance with any or all of the standards required through annual reports that demonstrate said compliance, or as requested by the Franchising Authority.

## E. Procedure for Remedying Violations

- 1. If the Franchising Authority has reason to believe that a Cable Operator has failed to comply with any of these Standards, or has failed to perform in a timely manner, the Franchising Authority may pursue the procedures in its Franchise Agreement to address violations of these Standards in a like manner as other franchise violations are considered.
- 2. Following the procedures set forth in any Franchise Agreement governing the manner to address alleged Franchise violations, if the Franchising Authority determines in its sole discretion that the noncompliance has been substantiated, in addition to any remedies that may be provided in the Franchise Agreement, the Franchising Authority may:
- a. Impose assessments of up to one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) per day, to be withdrawn from the Security Fund in addition to any franchise fee until the non-compliance is remedied; and/or
- b. Order such rebates and credits to affected customers as in its sole discretion it deems reasonable and appropriate for degraded or unsatisfactory services that constituted noncompliance with these Standards; and/or

- c. Reverse any decision of the Cable Operator in the matter and/or
- d. Grant a specific solution as determined by the Franchising Authority; and/or
- e. Except for in emergency situations, withhold licenses and permits for work by the Cable Operator or its subcontractors in accordance with applicable law.

#### V. MISCELLANEOUS

# A. Severability

Should any section, subsection, paragraph, term, or provision of these Standards be determined to be illegal, invalid, or unconstitutional by any court or agency of competent jurisdiction with regard thereto, such determination shall have no effect on the validity of any other section, subsection, paragraph, term, or provision of these Standards, each of the latter of which shall remain in full force and effect.

#### B. Non-Waiver

Failure to enforce any provision of these Standards shall not operate as a waiver of the obligations or responsibilities of a Cable Operator under said provision, or any other provision of these Standards.

# EXHIBIT B

# **Report Form**

Comcast

Quarterly Executive Summary - Escalated Complaints
Section 7.6 (B) of our Franchise Agreement
Quarter Ending \_\_\_\_\_\_\_, Year
DOUGLAS COUNTY, COLORADO

Type of Complaint	Number of Calls
essibility	0
ling, Credit and Refunds	0
purtesy	0
rop Bury	0
nstallation	0
Notices/Easement Issues (Non-Rebuild)	0
Pedestal	0
Problem Resolution	0
Programming	0
Property Damage (Non-Rebuild)	0
Rates	0
Rebuild/Upgrade Damage	0
Rebuild/Upgrade Notices/Easement Issues	0
Reception/Signal Quality	0
Safety	0
Service and Install Appointments	0
Service Interruptions	0
Serviceability	0
<u> </u>	
Compliments	
sompliments	