

CITY OF SEATTLE

RESOLUTION 32095

A RESOLUTION authorizing commencement of cable franchise contract renewal proceedings in accordance with the provisions of 47 U.S.C. Section 546 and written request from Comcast Cable Communications Management, LLC.

WHEREAS, Comcast Cable Communications Management, LLC (“Comcast”) currently provides cable services in Seattle, in accordance with a franchise agreement authorized by Ordinance 124957 that expires on January 20, 2026; and

WHEREAS, Section 626 of the Cable Communications Policy Act of 1984 (“Cable Act”), 47 U.S.C. Section 546, establishes both formal and informal procedures that govern the franchise renewal process; and

WHEREAS, The City of Seattle is the franchising authority for cable services within its city limits; and

WHEREAS, 47 U.S.C. Section 546(a) provides that, during the six-month period which begins with the 36 months before franchise expiration, the franchising authority shall, at the request of the cable operator, commence proceedings which afford the public in the franchise area appropriate notice and participation, for the purpose of identifying the future cable-related community needs and interests and reviewing the performance of the cable operator under the franchise during the then-current franchise term; and

WHEREAS, in a letter (Attachment A to this resolution) received by the Office of Cable Communications on February 21, 2023, Comcast formally requested that the City commence formal renewal proceedings in accordance with the requirements of 47 U.S.C. Section 546(a) through (g), but also indicated its desire to reach a mutually satisfactory

1 franchise renewal agreement with the City through informal negotiations as per 47 U.S.C.
2 Section 546(h); NOW, THEREFORE,

3 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEATTLE, THE**
4 **MAYOR CONCURRING, THAT:**

5 Section 1. The letter from Comcast Cable Communications Management, LLC
6 (“Comcast”) dated February 21, 2023, formally requesting the commencement of renewal
7 proceedings under Section 626 of the Cable Communications Policy Act of 1984 (47 U.S.C.
8 Section 546), was submitted in a timely manner and is hereby acknowledged.

9 Section 2. The Mayor or the Mayor’s designated representative is authorized to
10 implement the necessary processes and procedures to enable the City to comply with all of its
11 obligations under 47 U.S.C. Section 546.

12 Section 3. The City hereby commences proceedings to afford the public in the franchise
13 area appropriate notice and participation for the purpose of identifying future cable-related
14 community needs and interests and to review the performance of Comcast under the franchise
15 during the current franchise term.

16 Section 4. Pursuant to the request by Comcast, the Mayor or the Mayor’s designated
17 representative is authorized to study the feasibility of an informal franchise renewal process
18 pursuant to 47 U.S.C. Section 546(h), while reserving the City’s right to implement the formal
19 processes outlined by 47 U.S.C. Section 546(a) through (g).



Comcast Cable Communications
Management, LLC
900 132nd Street SW
Everett, WA 98204
www.comcast.com
www.comcastcorporation.com

February 21, 2023

(CERTIFIED MAIL)

Brenda Tate
Office of Cable Communications
City of Seattle
700 Fifth Avenue, Suite 2700
Seattle, WA 98104

Subject: FRANCHISE RENEWAL

Dear Ms. Tate:

We at Comcast appreciate the opportunity to serve the citizens of Seattle. It is our credo that *we will deliver a superior experience to our customers every day. Our products will be the best and we will offer the most customer-friendly and reliable services in the market.* In living our credo, we look forward to providing broadband services to our customers in Seattle for many years to come. Therefore, we are taking this step to ensure the renewal of our franchise with you.

The Cable Communications Policy Act of 1984 ("the 1984 Cable Act") encourages franchisors and cable operators to reach renewal agreements at any time through an informal process of discussion. However, Section 626 of the 1984 Cable Act also provides for commencement of a formal renewal procedure. To preserve our statutory rights to this formal procedure, this letter is our official notice to you invoking that provision.

This letter is not intended to introduce a new formality into our discussions, nor is that the intention of the 1984 Cable Act. In fact, we prefer to reach a mutually satisfactory agreement through informal negotiations, thus making many of the 1984 Cable Act's formal procedures unnecessary.

I will be happy to discuss this matter with you or provide any additional information that you may require. I look forward to meeting with you in the near future and to continuing a relationship that, we believe, benefits both the community and the residents of Seattle.



Sincerely,

Terry Davis

Terry Davis
Senior Director, Government Affairs

cc: Michael Ruger, Vice President of Government Affairs
Rich Jennings, West Division President
Steve Holmes, West Division Vice President of Government Affairs

