



# SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL

## Legislative Summary

CB 118347

Record No.: CB 118347

Type: Ordinance (Ord)

Status: Attested by City Clerk

124736

Version: 4

In Control: City Clerk

File Created: 01/30/2015

Final Action: 03/27/2015

**Title:** AN ORDINANCE relating to the City's Cable Communications Ordinance; amending Chapter 21.60 of the Seattle Municipal Code to reflect advances in technology and changes in federal law, to create a logical organization of the Chapter for ease of reference, to promote competition in cable services, to enhance consumer protection, and to reserve the City's authority in a fluid regulatory environment; updating the membership requirements and duties of the Citizens' Telecommunications and Technology Advisory Board, renaming it the Community Technology Advisory Board, and moving the requirements and duties of the Board from Chapter 21.60 to Chapter 3.22; renaming Subtitle V of Title 21 and Chapter 21.60; amending Sections 3.02.125, 21.60.010, 21.60.020, 21.60.030, 21.60.040, 21.60.050, 21.60.060, 21.60.080, 21.60.090, 21.60.100, 21.60.110, 21.60.120, 21.60.130, 21.60.140, 21.60.150, 21.60.160, 21.60.170, 21.60.180, 21.60.190, 21.60.200, 21.60.210, 21.60.220, 21.60.240, 21.60.250, 21.60.260, 21.60.270, 21.60.280, 21.60.800, 21.60.820, and 21.60.830; repealing Sections 21.60.230, 21.60.290, 21.60.295, 21.60.300, 21.60.310, 21.60.320, 21.60.330, 21.60.340, 21.60.350, 21.60.360, 21.60.370, 21.60.380, 21.60.390, 21.60.400, 21.60.440, 21.60.450, 21.60.460, 21.60.470, 21.60.480, 21.60.490, 21.60.500, 21.60.510, 21.60.520, 21.60.530, 21.60.540, 21.60.550, 21.60.560, 21.60.570, 21.60.580, 21.60.590, 21.60.600, 21.60.620, 21.60.630, 21.60.640, 21.60.650, 21.60.660, 21.60.670, 21.60.680, 21.60.690, 21.60.700, 21.60.710, and 21.60.810; and adding Sections 3.22.050, 21.60.070, 21.60.125, 21.60.825, 21.60.840, and 21.60.850 of the Seattle Municipal Code; and repealing Ordinance 123461.

Date

Notes:

Filed with City Clerk:

Sponsors: Harrell

Mayor's Signature:

Vetoed by Mayor:

Veto Overridden:

Veto Sustained:

Attachments:

Drafter: megan.coppersmith@seattle.gov

Filing Requirements/Dept Action:

History of Legislative File

Legal Notice Published:  Yes  No

Version:	Acting Body:	Date:	Action:	Sent To:	Due Date:	Return Date:	Result:
1	Mayor	02/03/2015	Mayor's leg transmitted to Council	City Clerk			
	<b>Action Text:</b>	The Council Bill (CB) was Mayor's leg transmitted to Council to the City Clerk					
	<b>Notes:</b>						
1	City Clerk	02/03/2015	sent for review	Council President's Office			
	<b>Action Text:</b>	The Council Bill (CB) was sent for review to the Council President's Office					
	<b>Notes:</b>						
1	Council President's Office	02/05/2015	sent for review	Public Safety, Civil Rights, and Technology Committee			
	<b>Action Text:</b>	The Council Bill (CB) was sent for review to the Public Safety, Civil Rights, and Technology Committee					
	<b>Notes:</b>						
2	Full Council	03/16/2015	referred	Public Safety, Civil Rights, and Technology Committee			
	<b>Action Text:</b>	The Council Bill (CB) was referred to the Public Safety, Civil Rights, and Technology Committee					
	<b>Notes:</b>						
2	Public Safety, Civil Rights, and Technology Committee	03/18/2015	pass as amended				Pass
	<b>Action Text:</b>	The Committee recommends that Full Council pass as amended the Council Bill (CB). In Favor: 2 Member Harrell, Licata Opposed: 0					
2	Full Council	03/23/2015	passed as amended				Pass
	<b>Action Text:</b>	The Motion carried and the Council Bill (CB) passed as amended by the following vote, and the President signed the Bill:					
	<b>Notes:</b>	Motion was made by Councilmember Harrell, duly seconded and carried, to amend Council Bill No. 118347, Section 21, by substituting Subsection A.3 of SMC 21.60.170 and by adding a new SMC 21.60.170.A.4, as shown below in the underlined and strike through language below:					

Action 1:

**SMC 21.60.170.A.3:**

3. All grantees to verify low-income requirement. Grantee shall meet with and provide documentation to the Office of Cable Communications not less frequently than semiannually to demonstrate that it has met the

low-income service provision requirement in subsection 21.60.170.A.1.b (for a new franchise, if applicable at the time of a particular meeting) or in subsection 21.60.170.A.2 (for a renewed franchise). ~~Each year, Quarterly,~~ the Office of Cable Communications shall provide forward to Council a copy of grantee's documentation report or other document demonstrating that grantee has met its low-income service provision requirement along with the Office of Cable Communications' analysis of grantee's documentation. If grantee does not demonstrate compliance, the Office of Cable Communications shall report the noncompliance to Council in its quarterly annual report. The Office of Cable Communications shall provide these quarterly reports for the first five years of a new franchise, and for the first two years of a renewed franchise, and shall continue to provide these quarterly reports thereafter if so requested by the chair of the Council committee with oversight responsibility for cable issues.

a. If the Office of Cable Communications determines that the requirement is not being met, it may impose other requirements, including but not limited to (i) imposing penalties; (ii) requiring grantee to expand the provision of cable service to other areas of the city, to ensure that the low-income service provision requirement will be met; and (iii) mandating any other action intended to incent compliance with the low-income service provision requirement.

b. The Office of Cable Communications may also impose penalties for grantee's failure to comply with such additional requirements within a specified time.

**SMC 21.60.170.A.4:**

4. The Office of Cable Communications shall develop procedures and metrics to implement this subsection 21.60.170.A to describe how compliance with the low-income service provision requirement will be measured and what threshold of service will be deemed to constitute compliance.

Action 2:

Motion was made by Councilmember Harrell, duly seconded and carried, to amend Council Bill No. 118347, Section 32, to fill in two blanks with Council Bill No. "118347."

Action 3:

Motion was made and duly seconded to pass Council Bill No. 118347 as amended.

In Favor: 8 Council President Burgess, Councilmember Clark, Councilmember Godden, Councilmember Harrell, Councilmember Licata, Councilmember O'Brien, Councilmember Rasmussen, Councilmember Sawant  
Opposed: 0

- 4 City Clerk 03/25/2015 submitted for Mayor  
Mayor's signature  
Action Text: The Council Bill (CB) was submitted for Mayor's signature. to the Mayor  
Notes:
- 4 Mayor 03/27/2015 Signed  
Action Text: The Council Bill (CB) was Signed.  
Notes:
- 4 Mayor 03/27/2015 returned to Clerk City Clerk  
Action Text: The Council Bill (CB) was returned to Clerk. to the City Clerk  
Notes:
- 4 City Clerk 03/27/2015 attested by City Clerk  
Action Text: The Ordinance (Ord) was attested by City Clerk.  
Notes:
-

**CITY OF SEATTLE**  
**ORDINANCE** 124736  
**COUNCIL BILL** 118347

1  
2  
3  
4 ..title

5 AN ORDINANCE relating to the City's Cable Communications Ordinance; amending Chapter  
6 21.60 of the Seattle Municipal Code to reflect advances in technology and changes in  
7 federal law, to create a logical organization of the Chapter for ease of reference, to  
8 promote competition in cable services, to enhance consumer protection, and to reserve  
9 the City's authority in a fluid regulatory environment; updating the membership  
10 requirements and duties of the Citizens' Telecommunications and Technology Advisory  
11 Board, renaming it the Community Technology Advisory Board, and moving the  
12 requirements and duties of the Board from Chapter 21.60 to Chapter 3.22; renaming  
13 Subtitle V of Title 21 and Chapter 21.60; amending Sections 3.02.125, 21.60.010,  
14 21.60.020, 21.60.030, 21.60.040, 21.60.050, 21.60.060, 21.60.080, 21.60.090, 21.60.100,  
15 21.60.110, 21.60.120, 21.60.130, 21.60.140, 21.60.150, 21.60.160, 21.60.170, 21.60.180,  
16 21.60.190, 21.60.200, 21.60.210, 21.60.220, 21.60.240, 21.60.250, 21.60.260, 21.60.270,  
17 21.60.280, 21.60.800, 21.60.820, and 21.60.830; repealing Sections 21.60.230,  
21.60.290, 21.60.295, 21.60.300, 21.60.310, 21.60.320, 21.60.330, 21.60.340, 21.60.350,  
21.60.360, 21.60.370, 21.60.380, 21.60.390, 21.60.400, 21.60.440, 21.60.450, 21.60.460,  
21.60.470, 21.60.480, 21.60.490, 21.60.500, 21.60.510, 21.60.520, 21.60.530, 21.60.540,  
21.60.550, 21.60.560, 21.60.570, 21.60.580, 21.60.590, 21.60.600, 21.60.620, 21.60.630,  
21.60.640, 21.60.650, 21.60.660, 21.60.670, 21.60.680, 21.60.690, 21.60.700, 21.60.710,  
and 21.60.810; and adding Sections 3.22.050, 21.60.070, 21.60.125, 21.60.825,  
21.60.840, and 21.60.850 of the Seattle Municipal Code; and repealing Ordinance  
123461.

17 ..body

18 WHEREAS, the City of Seattle is the local franchising authority authorized to regulate cable  
19 service; and

20 WHEREAS, Chapter 21.60 of the Seattle Municipal Code, the City's Cable Communications  
21 Ordinance ("Cable Code"), was enacted by Ordinance 105427 in 1976, to provide for the  
22 granting and renewal of cable franchises and their terms and conditions; and

23  
24 WHEREAS, the Cable Code was last amended in substance by Ordinance 120775 in 2002 to  
25 update the standards related to customer service, consumer protection and privacy for  
26

1 Seattle's cable customers within Subchapter II of the Cable Code; the Cable Customer  
2 Bill of Rights; and

3 WHEREAS, major restructuring of cable and telecommunications law and regulation at the  
4 federal level has occurred due to passage of the Cable Communications Policy Act of  
5 1984, the Cable Television Consumer Protection and Competition Act of 1992, and the  
6 Telecommunications Act of 1996; and

7  
8 WHEREAS, although internet service is currently unregulated, due to discussions occurring  
9 nationally about the need for regulatory oversight of internet service as a vital and  
10 integral service, the City desires to reserve its rights to protect internet consumers to the  
11 fullest extent in the event of a change in federal law or regulation by the Federal  
12 Communications Commission; and

13  
14 WHEREAS, updates to the Cable Code are needed to better organize it and to make it easier to  
15 read and understand, to repeal outdated, complicated and unnecessary provisions and  
16 processes, and to ensure consistency with federal law; and

17  
18 WHEREAS, amendments to the Cable Code are also needed to reflect current City practices, in  
19 particular the need to ensure that benefits of cable competition accrue to all residents  
20 regardless of income level; and

21  
22 WHEREAS, many technological advances in communications technology have occurred since  
the Cable Code and its amendments were enacted; and

23  
24 WHEREAS, these advances include the ongoing transition of traditional communications  
25 services, like cable television, to internet applications delivered over broadband  
26 networks; and

1 WHEREAS, this transition creates a need for the City to ensure that such innovations serve the  
2 public interest; and

3 WHEREAS, in this changing environment, the City has determined that the public's interest will  
4 best be served by expanding the duties of the current Office of Cable Communications to  
5 include monitoring of broadband technologies and assisting in related policy  
6 development; and

7  
8 WHEREAS, as cable and broadband technology advances, the City has determined that it is also  
9 necessary to update the membership requirements and duties of the Citizens'  
10 Telecommunications and Technology Advisory Board (CTTAB), rename CTTAB as the  
11 Community Technology Advisory Board (CTAB), and move such membership  
12 requirements and duties from Chapter 21.60 to Chapter 3.22 of the Seattle Municipal  
13 Code; and

14  
15 WHEREAS, the City of Seattle desires to amend its Cable Code to promote competition in cable  
16 service, ensure equitable distribution of the benefits of such competition, enhance  
17 consumer protection, and reserve the City's rights in a fluid regulatory environment;

18 NOW THEREFORE,

19  
20 **BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF SEATTLE AS FOLLOWS:**

21 Section 1. The name of Subtitle V of Title 21, which name was enacted by ordinance  
22 109560, is amended as follows:

23  
24 **Subtitle V – ((CATV)) Cable Television**

Section 2. The name of Chapter 21.60, which name was enacted by ordinance 109560, is amended as follows:

**Chapter 21.60 Cable ((Communications)) Code**

Section 3. Subsection A of Section 3.02.125 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by ordinance 124473, is amended as follows:

**3.02.125 Hearing examiner filing fees**

A. The filing fee for a case before the City Hearing Examiner is \$85.00, with the following exceptions:

Basis for Case	Fee in dollars
Revocation of Admission Tax Exemption (Section 5.40.085 ..... ((Cable Communications)) Cable Code (Chapter 21.60 .....	No fee
Dangerous Animals (Chapter 9.25 .....	No fee
Energy Benchmarking Citation (Chapter 22.920 .....	No fee
Fair Contracting Practices (Chapter 14.10 .....	No fee
Fair Employment Practices Ordinance (Chapter 14.04 .....	No fee
Floating Home Moorages (Chapter 7.20 .....	85 per petitioner 255 maximum
Land Use Code Citation (Chapter 23.91 .....	No fee
Landmark Preservation Controls and Incentives (Section 25.12.530 .....	No fee
Noise Code Citation (Ch. 25.08 .....	No fee
Open Housing Ordinance (Chapter 14.08 .....	No fee
Paid Sick/Safe Leave (Chapter 14.16 .....	No fee
Public Accommodations Ordinance (Chapter 14.06 .....	No fee
Refund Anticipation Loan (Chapter 7.26 .....	5
Relocation Assistance (Chapter 20.84 .....	No fee
SDOT Citation (Chapter 15.91 .....	No fee
Tenant Relocation Assistance (Chapter 22.210	No fee



1	.....	
2	Third Party Utility Billing (Chapter 7.25 .....	5
3	Type III or Type IV Land Use Application (Chapter 23.76 .....	No fee
4	Use of Criminal History in Employment Decisions (Chapter 14.17 .....	No fee
5	Weed and Vegetation Citation (Chapter 10.52 .....)	No fee
6	Whistleblower Protection Code (Section 4.20.865 .....	No fee

7  
 8 Section 4. Section 21.60.010 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance  
 9 105427, is amended as follows:

10 **21.60.010 Short title ((=))**

11 This ~~((chapter shall constitute))~~ Chapter 21.60 constitutes the "Cable ~~((Communications~~  
 12 ~~Ordinance))~~ Code" of the City and may be referred to as such.

13  
 14 Section 5. Section 21.60.020 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance  
 15 105427, is amended as follows:

16 **21.60.020 Purpose ((=))**

17 It is the purpose of this ~~((chapter))~~ Chapter 21.60 to regulate in the public interest the  
 18 operation of cable ~~((communications))~~ systems and their use of the ~~((public streets))~~ rights-of-  
 19 way in the City of Seattle by: ~~((establishing procedures for the granting and termination of~~  
 20 ~~franchises and the fixing of subscriber rates and charges, by prescribing rights and duties of~~  
 21 ~~operators and users of cable communications systems, and by providing generally for cable~~  
 22 ~~communications service to the citizens of Seattle.))~~

23  
 24 A. Establishing procedures for the granting, renewal, modification, transfer, and  
 25 termination of franchises for the provision of cable service to the residents of Seattle;  
 26

1           B. Providing for the regulation of certain subscriber rates and charges, consistent  
2 with applicable law;

3           C. Providing for the payment of fees and other consideration to the City for the use  
4 of the public ways and for the privilege to construct and operate cable systems;

5           D. Prescribing rights and duties of operators and subscribers of cable systems;

6           E. Establishing customer service and privacy standards for subscribers of cable  
7 service and other services provided over the cable system to the extent not prohibited by  
8 applicable federal and state law;

9           F. Providing for the development of cable communications as a means to improve  
10 communication between and among members of the public and public institutions of the City;

11           G. Providing remedies and prescribing penalties for violation of this Chapter 21.60  
12 and any franchise granted hereunder;

13           H. Promoting the availability of diverse, multimedia information resources to the  
14 community and the enhancement of educational opportunities throughout the community while  
15 ensuring that the City has the authority to act to protect the public safety and welfare in the face  
16 of a rapidly-changing industry; and

17           I. Enabling the City to discharge its public trust consistent with rapidly evolving  
18 federal and state regulatory policies, industry competition, and technological development.

19           Section 6. Section 21.60.030 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance  
20 120181, is amended as follows:

21 **21.60.030 Definitions(=)**

1 For the purposes of this ~~((chapter))~~ Chapter 21.60, the following terms, phrases, words,  
2 abbreviations, and their derivations ~~((shall))~~ have the meaning given in this ~~((section. When))~~  
3 Section 21.60.030. If not inconsistent with the context, words used in the present tense ~~((shall))~~  
4 include the future tense, words in the plural number include the singular number, and words in  
5 the singular number include the plural number.

6 ~~((A. "Access channels" means those channels designated and maintained by a cable~~  
7 ~~communications system for programming not originated or procured by the system, including,~~  
8 ~~but not limited to, the local government, the educational, and the public access channels~~  
9 ~~described in and required by Sections 21.60.090 through 21.60.140~~

10 ~~B. "Advisory Board" means the Citizens' Advisory Board created in Sections 21.60.060 and~~  
11 ~~21.60.070.~~

12 ~~C. "Basic services" shall be as defined in Section 21.60.090~~

13 ~~D. "Cable communications system" or "CATV system," which words are used interchangeably~~  
14 ~~for the purpose of this chapter, are terms describing a system employing antennae, microwave,~~  
15 ~~wires, wave guides, coaxial cables or other conductors, equipment, or facilities designed,~~  
16 ~~constructed, or used for the purpose of:~~

17 ~~1. Collecting and amplifying local and distant broadcast, television, or radio signals and~~  
18 ~~distributing and transmitting them;~~

19 ~~2. Transmitting original cablecast programming not received through television broadcast~~  
20 ~~signals;~~

1           3. ~~Transmitting television pictures, film and video tape programs not received through~~  
2 ~~broadcast television signals, whether or not encoded or processed to permit reception by only~~  
3 ~~selected receivers; and~~

4           4. ~~Transmitting and receiving all other signals: digital, voice, audio-visual.~~

5 E. ~~"City" means The City of Seattle, a municipal corporation of the State of Washington in its~~  
6 ~~present incorporated form or in any later reorganized, consolidated, enlarged or reincorporated~~  
7 ~~form.~~

8 F. ~~"Council" means the City Council of The City of Seattle or any future body constituting the~~  
9 ~~legislative body of the City.))~~

10           "Access channel" means any channel or portion of a channel on a cable system required  
11 by a franchise to be set aside by a grantee for public, educational, or governmental use.

12           "Basic cable service" means, at minimum, all signals of domestic television broadcast  
13 stations provided to any subscriber (except a signal secondarily transmitted by satellite carrier  
14 beyond the local service area of such station, regardless of how such signal is ultimately received  
15 by the cable system), any PEG programming required by a franchise to be carried on the basic  
16 tier, and any additional video programming signals or service added to the basic tier by a grantee.

17           "Business day" means a day that is not a Saturday, Sunday, or federal, state, or City  
18 holiday.

19           "Cable service" means (a) the one-way transmission to subscribers of (i) video  
20 programming or (ii) other programming service (i.e. information that a grantee makes available  
21 to all subscribers generally), and (b) subscriber interaction, if any, that is required for the  
22 selection or use of such video programming or other programming service.

1           “Cable system” means a cable system as defined in Title VI of the Federal  
2 Communications Act of 1934, 47 U.S.C. § 522(7), as amended, and any implementing  
3 regulations.

4           “Channel” means a portion of the electromagnetic frequency spectrum that is used in a  
5 cable system and that is capable of delivering a television channel as defined by the FCC.

6           “City” means The City of Seattle.

7           "Complaint" means any issue raised by a customer that is a violation of Subchapter II of  
8 Chapter 21.60 or a statement of dissatisfaction with the grantee for any reason.

9           “Customer” means either a subscriber or, if applicable, any resident of the City who  
10 interacts with a grantee for purposes of establishing any communications service or, if  
11 applicable, any person who lawfully receives other services from the grantee.

12           "Customer service representative" or "CSR" means any person employed or contracted  
13 by the grantee to assist, or provide service to, customers, whether by answering public telephone  
14 lines, responding to email, writing service or installation orders, answering customers' questions,  
15 receiving and processing payments, or performing other customer service related tasks.

16           “Day” means calendar day.

17           “FCC” means the Federal Communications Commission, or a designated representative.

18           ~~((G.))~~ "Franchise" means ~~((and includes))~~ any authorization granted under this ~~((chapter))~~  
19 Chapter 21.60 in terms of a franchise, privilege, permit, license or ~~((otherwise))~~ other City  
20 authorization to construct, operate, and maintain a cable ~~((communication))~~ system within all or  
21 a specified area in the city limits. Any such authorization, in whatever form granted, ~~((shall))~~  
22 does not ~~((mean and))~~ include any license or permit required for the privilege of transacting and

1 carrying on a business within the city limits as required by other (~~ordinances and laws of this~~)  
2 City laws or regulations.

3 "Franchise area" means the area within the city limits where a grantee is authorized to  
4 build, expand, or use a cable system to provide cable service, pursuant to the requirements of the  
5 franchise.

6 "Franchise fees" means franchise fees as defined in Title VI of the Federal  
7 Communications Act of 1934, 47 U.S.C. § 542(g), as amended, and any implementing  
8 regulations.

9  
10 ~~((H.))~~ "Grantee" means any person, firm, or corporation granted a franchise by the City  
11 under this (~~chapter~~) Chapter 21.60 and the lawful successor, transferee, or assignee of such  
12 person, firm, or corporation.

13  
14 ~~((I. "Mayor" means the Mayor of The City of Seattle or any other person however~~  
15 ~~designated who shall be the chief executive officer of the City.~~

16 J. ~~"Nonbasic services" shall be as defined in Section 21.60.100~~

17 K. ~~"Person" means any natural person and all domestic and foreign corporations,~~  
18 ~~associations, syndicates, joint stock corporations, partnerships of every kind, clubs, business and~~  
19 ~~common law trusts and societies.~~

20  
21 L. ~~"Property of grantee" means all property owned, installed and used within the City by~~  
22 ~~a grantee in the conduct of a cable communications system business under the authority of a~~  
23 ~~franchise grant pursuant to this chapter.~~

24 M. ~~"Street" for the purpose of this chapter means the surface, the air space above the~~  
25 ~~surface, and the area below the surface of any public street under the jurisdiction of the City.~~

1 N. ~~"Subscriber" or "user" means any person or entity receiving for a consideration, direct~~  
2 ~~or indirect, any service of a grantee's cable communications system.~~

3 O. ~~"Office of Cable Communications" means and shall refer to the Department of~~  
4 ~~Information Technology.))~~

5 "Gross revenues" means any and all compensation in whatever form, from any source,  
6 directly or indirectly earned by grantee or any affiliate of grantee or any other person who would  
7 constitute a cable operator of the cable system under federal law, derived from the operation of  
8 the cable system to provide cable service within the City. Gross revenues do not include any  
9 taxes on services furnished by grantee, which taxes are imposed directly on a subscriber by a  
10 city, county, state, or other governmental unit, and collected by grantee for such entity.

11 "IVR" means interactive voice response, an automated telephony technology that  
12 interacts with subscribers by way of a telephone keypad, speech recognition, or other means;  
13 gathers information from a subscriber; provides appropriate responses; and routes calls to a CSR  
14 if the subscriber indicates that preference.

15 "Non-cable service" means any service that is distributed over the cable system other  
16 than cable service, including other service as defined in 47 U.S.C. § 551(a)(2)(B).

17 "Non-standard installation" means, unless otherwise defined in the franchise, any  
18 installation of cable services that requires the installation of facilities from a point more than 125  
19 feet from the customer's property line to: (1) for a prewired dwelling unit, the federal  
20 demarcation point, or (2) for an unwired dwelling unit, a point not less than 12 inches from the  
21 exterior wall of the dwelling unit. Non-standard installation also means any underground  
22 installation in an area where plant facilities are not underground; any installation calling for

1 multiple outlets in a dwelling unit; or a commercial installation.

2 "Normal business hours" means the hours of 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday through Friday,  
3 and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday, excluding federal, state, or City holidays.

4 "Normal operating conditions" means service conditions within the control of the grantee.  
5 Those conditions that are not within the control of the grantee include, but are not limited to,  
6 natural disasters, civil disturbances, power outages, telephone network outages, and severe or  
7 unusual weather conditions. Those conditions that are ordinarily within the control of the grantee  
8 include, but are not limited to, special promotions, pay-per-view events, rate increases, regular  
9 peak or seasonal demand periods, and maintenance or upgrade of the cable system.

10 "PEG" means public, educational, or governmental.

11 "Person" means any sole proprietorship, partnership, association, limited liability entity,  
12 corporation, or other form of organization or other legally recognized entity, private or public,  
13 whether for-profit or not-for-profit, authorized to do business in the State of Washington, or any  
14 natural person. The City is not a person.

15 "Rates" means any and all charges, fees, or other compensation assessed by a grantee for  
16 the provision of cable services.

17 "Records" means written or graphic materials, however produced or reproduced, or any  
18 other tangible permanent documents, including those maintained by computer or other electronic  
19 or digital means, maintained by a grantee in the ordinary course of conducting its business,  
20 including, but not limited to, financial documents that may be required for audit purposes.

21 "Right-of-way" means the surface of and space above and below any public streets,  
22 avenues, ways, boulevards, drives, places, alleys, sidewalks, planting strips, squares, triangles,



1 and plazas that are dedicated or commonly used for transportation or utility purposes, including  
2 general or utility easements in which the City has the right and authority to authorize, regulate, or  
3 permit the location of utility facilities. "Right-of-way" does not include any real or personal City  
4 property that is not specifically described in the previous sentence and does not include City  
5 buildings, fixtures, and other structures or improvements, regardless of whether they are situated  
6 in a public place as defined by Section 15.02.046.

7  
8 "Standard installation" means, unless otherwise defined in the franchise, (1) for a  
9 prewired dwelling unit, the installation of cable service to the federal demarcation point located  
10 on the customer's property up to and including 125 feet from the customer's property line,  
11 sufficient to receive cable services and where the prewired equipment will allow the cable  
12 system to meet all FCC technical requirements; and (2) for an unwired dwelling unit, an  
13 installation of cable service to the customer's dwelling unit located up to and including 125 feet  
14 from the existing distribution system, plus additional inside wire and at least one outlet sufficient  
15 to receive cable services.

16  
17 "Street" means a strip of land or part thereof within the right-of-way, whether dedicated  
18 or not, that is intended or used for vehicular or pedestrian traffic as set forth in Title 15.

19  
20 "Subscriber" means any person who is lawfully receiving, for any purpose or reason, any  
21 cable service, whether or not a fee is paid. In the case of multiple office buildings or multiple  
22 dwelling units, the "subscriber" means the lessee, tenant, or occupant.

23 Section 7. Section 21.60.040 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance  
24 120181, is amended as follows:

25 **21.60.040 Office of Cable Communications ((-))**  
26

1 A. The Department of Information Technology shall (~~constitute~~) maintain an Office of  
2 Cable Communications for the administration and enforcement of this (~~chapter~~) Chapter 21.60,  
3 any franchises granted pursuant to this Chapter 21.60, and any other City ordinances relating to  
4 cable services or cable systems. (~~communications. The head of the Office of Cable~~  
5 ~~Communications shall be the Chief Technology Officer. The Chief Technology Officer shall~~  
6 ~~succeed without interruption to all the rights, duties, assets, responsibilities, contracts, and~~  
7 ~~enforcement proceedings heretofore belonging to or exercised by the Executive Services~~  
8 ~~Director in connection with cable communications.~~)

10 B. The duties of the Office of Cable Communications are as follows:

11 1. To process applications and requests relating to the granting, renewal, transfer,  
12 modification, or termination of franchises and other matters pertaining to cable systems;

14 2. To furnish information, recommendations, and technical assistance in connection  
15 with the matters identified in this Section 21.60.040 to Seattle City Council members;

16 3. To process applications for approval of initial or increased subscriber rates and to  
17 participate in rate hearings, consistent with applicable law;

18 4. To administer the City's Cable Customer Bill of Rights (Subchapter II of this  
19 Chapter 21.60), including investigating complaints, auditing compliance with customer service  
20 standards, and requiring payment of credits as authorized in Subchapter II;

21 5. To review and enforce the adherence by grantees to the terms of this Chapter  
22 21.60 and their respective franchises and to regulations of the FCC and other applicable laws and  
23 agreements;

1           6. To serve as a liaison for the distribution of information among public agencies,  
2 private firms, and individual property owners with respect to: (a) the undergrounding of utility  
3 wires; (b) the leasing of poles and pole space; and (c) the scheduling of construction if such  
4 undergrounding, leasing, or construction affects existing or potential cable system facilities,  
5 whether or not the public improvement involved is limited in scope to the undergrounding of  
6 overhead utility wires;

7           7. To promote the use of cable systems to ensure that residents have access to local  
8 programming that meets the needs and interests of City residents;

9           8. To coordinate community involvement in identification of the cable-related needs  
10 and interests of City residents;

11           9. To negotiate, enter into, manage, and enforce contracts pertaining to cable service  
12 and cable systems in the City, including, but not limited to, the management of access channels,  
13 franchises, and cable consultants;

14           10. To assist with the City's long term communications planning efforts;

15           11. To serve as the liaison for the distribution of information to the general public  
16 concerning matters related to cable and broadband communications;

17           12. To monitor the payments made by grantees and to conduct periodic audits; and

18           13. To monitor technical, economic, and competitive trends in the delivery of  
19 broadband services in Seattle, assist in the coordination of broadband policy development, and  
20 recommend actions the City can take to promote and encourage equitable, affordable access to  
21 broadband services.

1 C. Every grantee shall furnish to the Office of Cable Communications, and the Office of  
2 Cable Communications shall compile and maintain for public inspection during normal business  
3 hours, excluding Saturdays, copies of:

4 1. All applications and other communications related to the grantee's franchise area  
5 submitted to the City, the FCC, or any other federal, state, or local regulatory body having  
6 jurisdiction over cable communications within this City;

7 2. Current information on ownership and management of the grantee; and

8 3. Current subscriber agreements used by the grantee, complaint procedures  
9 followed by the grantee, non-cable services offered by the grantee, and the rates and charges for  
10 cable services and non-cable services offered by the grantee.

11 D. The Office of Cable Communications may adopt rules, regulations, and standards, and  
12 may amend, modify, delete, or otherwise change rules, regulations, or standards previously  
13 adopted, governing the operation of cable systems and the provision of cable services in the City.  
14 Such rules, regulations, and standards shall apply to and govern the operations of the grantee of  
15 any franchise under this Chapter 21.60, provided the same do not materially conflict with the  
16 contents of any franchise. Any rules, regulations, or standards proposed to be adopted pursuant  
17 to this subsection 21.60.040.D shall be consistent with this Chapter 21.60 and all other applicable  
18 ordinances of the City and shall be adopted in accordance with the procedures prescribed by the  
19 Administrative Code of the City.

20  
21  
22  
23 Section 8. Section 21.60.050 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance  
24 119402, is amended as follows:

25 ~~((21.60.050 Office of Cable Communications—Duties.~~

1 The duties of the Office of Cable Communications are as follows:

2 ~~A. To process applications for the granting or renewal of franchises;~~

3 ~~B. To furnish the Council information, recommendations and technical assistance in connection~~  
4 ~~with granting and renewing franchises;~~

5 ~~C. To process applications for approval of initial or increased subscriber rates and to participate~~  
6 ~~in rate hearings;~~

7 ~~D. To administer the City's Cable Customer Bill of Rights, including investigating complaints,~~  
8 ~~auditing compliance with customer service standards, and requiring payment of rebates as~~  
9 ~~authorized in the Cable Customer Bill of Rights;~~

10 ~~E. To review generally the adherence by grantees to the terms of their respective franchises and~~  
11 ~~to regulations of the Federal Communications Commission;~~

12 ~~F. To serve as liaison for the distribution of information among public agencies, private firms~~  
13 ~~and individual property owners with respect to: (1) the undergrounding of utility wires, (2)~~  
14 ~~leasing of poles and pole space, and (3) the scheduling of construction whenever such~~  
15 ~~undergrounding, leasing or construction affects existing or potential CATV facilities, whether or~~  
16 ~~not the public improvement involved is limited in scope to the undergrounding of overhead~~  
17 ~~wiring;~~

18 ~~G. To promote the use of cable communications, the use of local government, education and~~  
19 ~~public access channels, the procurement of grant funds to satisfy such uses, and community~~  
20 ~~involvement in the formulation of City policy with respect to cable communications; and~~

21 ~~H. To furnish to the Advisory Board such information and such staff, secretarial and other~~  
22 ~~assistance as the Advisory Board may require to carry out its duties.))~~

**21.60.050 Franchise to install and operate a cable system**

1  
2 A. The City may grant any person, by ordinance, a nonexclusive franchise to install,  
3 construct, operate, and maintain a cable system in the right-of-way within the franchise area as  
4 defined in the franchise. The grant of a franchise shall be made pursuant to the procedures,  
5 terms, and conditions set forth in this Chapter 21.60. No provision of this Chapter 21.60 requires  
6 the granting of a new franchise if, in the opinion of the Council, the granting of an additional  
7 franchise is not in the public interest.

8  
9 B. It is unlawful for any person to install, construct, operate, or maintain a cable system in  
10 the right-of-way within all or any part of the City or to provide cable service in the City without  
11 first obtaining a franchise pursuant to this Chapter 21.60.

12  
13 C. A franchise shall not relieve the grantee of any obligation to obtain and comply with any  
14 necessary permit or other forms of authorization required by the Seattle Municipal Code or other  
15 applicable laws and regulations, and shall not convey rights other than as specified in this  
16 Chapter 21.60, or in the franchise; no rights shall pass by implication.

17 D. Any franchise shall authorize the grantee to engage in the business of operating a cable  
18 system and providing cable service in the City, and may authorize non-cable service in the City  
19 to the extent not prohibited by state and federal law, and shall authorize the grantee to erect,  
20 install, construct, prepare, replace, reconstruct, maintain, and keep in any right-of-way such  
21 poles, wire, cable, conductors, ducts, conduit, vaults, manholes, amplifiers, appliances,  
22 attachments, and other facilities as may be necessary and appurtenant to the cable system. In  
23 addition, any franchise shall authorize the grantee to use and operate such facilities rented or  
24  
25  
26  
27

1 leased from other persons, including, but not limited to, any public utility or other grantee  
2 holding a valid franchise or permitted to do business in the City; however:

3 1. The safety, functioning, and appearance of the right-of-way and the safety of  
4 other persons shall not be adversely affected by the installation, construction, maintenance,  
5 operation, or removal of such facilities necessary for a cable system; and

6 2. The cost of the installation, construction, maintenance, operation, or removal of  
7 such facilities shall be borne by the grantee.

8  
9 E. Nothing in this Chapter 21.60 shall relieve the grantee of any obligation to obtain any  
10 authorizations, licenses, or franchises from the City to use the right-of-way to provide non-cable  
11 service, or to comply with any City rules, regulations, and standards with respect to the use of the  
12 right-of-way for the provision of such non-cable service. The provisions of this Chapter 21.60  
13 are not a bar to the imposition of similar, different, or additional City imposed rules, regulations,  
14 and standards with respect to the use of the right-of-way in connection with the provision of non-  
15 cable service. In addition to other rights it has, the City may establish such rules, regulations,  
16 and standards related to the provision of such non-cable service, to the extent not prohibited by  
17 state and federal law, as required to protect the public interest.

18  
19  
20 F. Any franchise shall require the grantee to pay to the City a franchise fee in an amount  
21 equal to 4.4 percent of the grantee's gross revenues.

22 G. Any franchise shall contain a provision setting forth liquidated damages for the grantee's  
23 failure to comply with the provisions of the franchise under the terms and in the amounts as set  
24 forth in the franchise.

25  
26 H. No franchise shall exceed 15 years in duration.

1 I. A franchise may provide the process for an expansion of a franchise area.

2 J. Nothing contained in this Section 21.60.050 or in any franchise shall relieve a grantee  
3 from the requirements of Title 15 or from the requirements of any other ordinance, rule,  
4 regulation, or standard enacted or promulgated by or on behalf of the City in connection with the  
5 exercise of the City's police powers.

6 K. Each grantee shall perform at its expense such tests as may be necessary to demonstrate  
7 whether the grantee is in compliance with its obligations under applicable FCC standards, this  
8 Chapter 21.60, or a franchise.

9 L. Each grantee shall provide records as specified in a franchise, or as may be required by  
10 the Office of Cable Communications, necessary to demonstrate the grantee's compliance with all  
11 terms, conditions, and requirements of this Chapter 21.60 and the grantee's franchise.

12 Section 9. Section 21.60.060 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance  
13 123181, is amended as follows:

14 ~~((21.60.060—Citizens' Telecommunications and Technology Advisory Board—Membership and~~  
15 ~~duties.~~

16 ~~A. There shall be a Citizens' Telecommunications and Technology Advisory Board~~  
17 ~~(CTTAB) consisting of ten members.~~

18 ~~1. CTTAB, which shall include one member representing public access to~~  
19 ~~telecommunications, one member representing education, one member from the Get Engaged:~~  
20 ~~City Boards and Commissions (Get Engaged) program, and seven members at large, shall be~~  
21 ~~staffed by a designee of the Executive who shall serve as Secretary to the Board. All members~~  
22 ~~shall serve without compensation.~~



1 ~~2. Effective January 1, 2011, a total of six members shall be appointed by the Mayor,~~  
2 ~~subject to approval by the Council, including the representatives of public access, education, and~~  
3 ~~one member from the Get Engaged program. Four at-large members shall be appointed by the~~  
4 ~~Council.~~

5 ~~3. With the exception of the Get Engaged program position whose term is governed by~~  
6 ~~SMC Chapter 3.51, the initial regular term of each member shall be two years, and each of those~~  
7 ~~members shall be eligible for reappointment by their assigned appointing authority (the Mayor or~~  
8 ~~Council), to one additional two year term. A member may serve again after a hiatus of ten years.~~

9 ~~4. Pursuant to the Get Engaged program, SMC Chapter 3.51, one designated young adult~~  
10 ~~position shall be included on this Board. The terms of service related to a young adult member's~~  
11 ~~role on this Board shall be set forth in that chapter.~~

12 ~~B. The duties of the Telecommunications and Technology Advisory Board are as follows:~~

13 ~~1. To study and make recommendations to the Mayor and the Council on issues referred to~~  
14 ~~the Board by the Mayor or Councilmembers, of community-wide interest relating to~~  
15 ~~telecommunications and technology, including such issues as cable television access, technology~~  
16 ~~access, and regulatory issues within the City's authority regarding wire and wireless~~  
17 ~~communication systems;~~

18 ~~2. To conduct hearings and workshops upon, and to make written recommendations~~  
19 ~~regarding telecommunications and technology issues as referred above, and report its findings~~  
20 ~~and recommendations to the Mayor and Council; and~~

21 ~~3. To perform such other duties as may from time to time be appropriate and approved by~~  
22 ~~resolution of the Seattle City Council.))~~

**21.60.060 Minimum requirements of every cable system**

In addition to any requirements contained in the approved franchise, any cable system permitted to be installed and operated under this Chapter 21.60 shall:

A. Be operationally capable of delivering to subscribers within the franchise area cable service and, if applicable, non-cable service, as set forth in the franchise;

B. Provide PEG access that meets the following minimum criteria:

1. PEG channel capacity shall be made available to the City and its designated PEG providers without charge;

2. PEG channel assignments shall be made by grantee in consultation with the Office of Cable Communications;

3. Programs on any PEG channel shall be available to all subscribers, and grantees shall interconnect their systems for this purpose; upon request of the City, every grantee of a cable system shall be required to interconnect with every other cable communications system within the City on fair and reasonable terms for purposes of providing PEG channels and programming;

4. Two-way origination and return capacity shall be available permitting transmission of originated program material between the head-end of the grantee and specified facilities located within the City as designated by the Office of Cable Communications;

5. A grantee shall not exercise any editorial control over any PEG channel content, except a grantee may refuse to transmit any public access program or portion of a public access program to comply with the law relating to obscenity;

1           6. If a grantee makes any change in the cable system and related equipment and  
2 facilities or in the grantee's signal delivery technology that directly or indirectly materially  
3 degrades the signal quality or transmission of PEG access programming, the grantee shall at its  
4 sole expense and free of charge to the City take necessary steps or provide necessary technical  
5 assistance, including, but not limited to, the acquisition of all necessary equipment, to ensure that  
6 the capabilities of PEG access programmers are restored; and

7           7. A grantee shall maintain all PEG access channels (both upstream channels and  
8 downstream channels) and all interconnections of PEG access channels at the same level of  
9 technical quality and reliability as the best commercial channels carried on the grantee's cable  
10 system;

11           C. Be engineered, constructed, and maintained, to the extent practicable and technically  
12 feasible, to provide for an emergency alert system consistent with the Washington State  
13 Emergency Alert System Plan that allows authorized officials to override the audio and video  
14 signals on all channels to transmit and report emergency information. In the case of any sudden,  
15 unforeseen event that has the potential to cause significant damage, destruction, or loss of life, a  
16 grantee shall make the emergency alert system available without charge and in a manner  
17 consistent with the Washington State Emergency Alert System Plan for the duration of such  
18 sudden, unforeseen event. The grantee shall cooperate with designated state officials to test the  
19 emergency override system, for periods not to exceed one minute in duration and not more than  
20 once every six months, and upon request by the City, provide verification of compliance with the  
21 Washington State Emergency Alert System Plan;

22           D. Comply with the cable system design and capacity terms outlined in the franchise; and  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28

1 E. Meet or exceed the technical standards set forth in 47 C.F.R § 76.601 and any other  
2 applicable technical standards.

3 Section 10. A new Section 21.60.070 of the Seattle Municipal Code is added as follows:

4 **21.60.070 Franchise area and maps**

5 A. Each grantee's franchise area is defined in its franchise with the City. A grantee shall  
6 construct the cable system pursuant to the requirements of the Seattle Municipal Code and the  
7 franchise.  
8

9 B. Each grantee shall maintain accurate maps and improvement plans of its franchise area  
10 that show the location, size, and a general description of all cable system facilities installed in the  
11 rights-of-way and any power supply sources, including voltages and connections. Each grantee  
12 shall provide a map to the Office of Cable Communications showing the location of the cable  
13 system facilities in such detail, format, and scale as directed by the Office of Cable  
14 Communications and shall update the map annually, whenever the facilities expand or are  
15 relocated, and within 30 days of a request by the Office of Cable Communications.  
16

17 Section 11. Section 21.60.080 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance  
18 120138, is amended as follows:

19 ~~((21.60.080 Franchise to install and operate.~~

20  
21 ~~A. The Council may grant to any person a nonexclusive franchise to install, construct, operate~~  
22 ~~and maintain a cable communications system on streets within one (1) or more cable districts as~~  
23 ~~defined in this chapter, or may grant a nonexclusive franchise for the entire City as a single cable~~  
24 ~~district. The award of such franchises shall be made pursuant to the procedures, terms and~~  
25 ~~conditions set forth in this chapter, and only to such persons who offer to provide a cable~~  
26

1 ~~communications system under and pursuant to the terms and conditions of this chapter. No~~  
2 ~~provision of this chapter shall be deemed or construed to require the granting of a franchise with~~  
3 ~~respect to any cable district when, in the opinion of the Council, the granting of an additional~~  
4 ~~franchise is not in the public interest.~~

5 ~~B. It shall be unlawful for any person to install, construct, operate or maintain a cable~~  
6 ~~communications system on streets within all or any part of the City without first obtaining a~~  
7 ~~franchise under and pursuant to the terms and provisions of this chapter, except as provided in~~  
8 ~~Sections 21.60.290 and 21.60.680 A.)~~

9  
10 **21.60.080 Application for a new franchise**

11 A. An applicant seeking a new franchise to construct, operate, and maintain a cable system  
12 in the City shall send an application to the Office of Cable Communications, along with a  
13 processing fee in the amount of \$20,000. The application shall also contain or be accompanied  
14 by the following:

15  
16 1. The name, address, email, and telephone number of the applicant and the  
17 designated contact person of the applicant;

18 2. A detailed statement of the corporate or other business organization of the  
19 applicant, including, but not limited to, the following:

20  
21 a. The names and business addresses of all officers and directors of the  
22 applicant; and

23 b. The names and addresses of all persons having, controlling, or being  
24 entitled to have or control, five percent or more of the ownership of the applicant, either directly  
25 or indirectly, and the ownership share of each such person;  
26

1           3. A detailed description of all previous experience of the applicant or the owners of  
2 the applicant in providing cable service and in related or similar fields;

3           4. A detailed and complete recent financial statement of the applicant prepared by or  
4 under the supervision of certified public accountants, and of any corporation owning a majority  
5 of the voting stock of the applicant;

6           5. A detailed financial plan showing the financial resources required to construct,  
7 operate, or maintain the proposed cable system together with satisfactory evidence, as applicable,  
8 of the availability to the applicant of funding in excess of the applicant's own cash resources not  
9 otherwise committed;

10           6. A detailed statement of the proposed plan of operation of the applicant, including:  
11  
12           a. A statement and description of the cable system proposed to be  
13 constructed, operated, or maintained by the applicant; the proposed location of the cable system  
14 and its various components; the manner in which the applicant proposes to construct, operate, or  
15 maintain the same; and the extent and manner in which existing or future poles or other facilities  
16 of other public utilities will be used for such cable system;

17  
18           b. A narrative detailing the boundaries of the franchise area in which the  
19 applicant seeks authority to construct, operate, or maintain any cable system equipment or  
20 facilities,

21           c. A statement or schedule setting forth all proposed rates to subscribers  
22 including installation charges and service charges;

23           d. A detailed, informative statement describing the equipment and  
24 operational standards proposed by the applicant, including if applicable administrative and  
25

1 technical procedures for interconnection of access channels and for safeguarding the privacy of  
2 return signals. In no event shall the operational and performance standards be less than those  
3 contained in FCC regulations;

4 e. A copy of any agreement proposed to be entered into between the  
5 applicant and any subscriber or multiple dwelling unit; and

6 f. A statement setting forth the substance of, and names of persons party to,  
7 all agreements existing or proposed between the applicant and any other person that materially  
8 relate to or depend upon the granting of the franchise;

9 7. An explanation of how the applicant will meet the future cable-related needs and  
10 interests of the community, including descriptions of how the applicant will meet the needs  
11 described in any recent community needs assessment conducted by or for the City, and how the  
12 applicant will provide adequate access channel capacity or financial support to meet the  
13 community's needs and interests;

14 8. A copy of any agreement with respect to the franchise area existing between the  
15 applicant and any public utility providing for the use of any facilities of the public utility;

16 9. An explanation of the applicant's legal qualifications to construct, operate, and  
17 maintain the proposed cable system including, but not limited to, verification that:

18 a. The applicant has not had any franchise revoked nor been held in violation  
19 of a franchise by any franchising authority or, absent such verification, a full explanation of the  
20 reasons for such a violation or revocation, such as the particular circumstances surrounding the  
21 matter and the steps taken by the applicant to cure all resulting harms and prevent their  
22 recurrence;

1           b. The applicant has, or is qualified to obtain, any necessary federal  
2 authorizations or waivers required to operate the proposed cable system; and

3           c. The applicant has not, at any time during the ten years preceding the  
4 submission of the application, been convicted of any act or omission of such character as would  
5 lead a reasonable person to conclude that the applicant cannot be relied upon to deal truthfully  
6 with the City and the subscribers of the cable system or to substantially comply with its lawful  
7 obligations under applicable law, including obligations under consumer protection laws and laws  
8 prohibiting anticompetitive acts, fraud, racketeering, or other similar conduct or, absent such  
9 verification, a full explanation of the reasons for such a conviction, such as the particular  
10 circumstances surrounding the matter and the steps taken by the applicant to cure all resulting  
11 harms and prevent their recurrence, the lack of involvement of the applicant's principals, or the  
12 remoteness of the matter from the operation of the cable system;

13           10. An affidavit or declaration of the applicant or authorized officer certifying the  
14 truth and accuracy of the information in the application, acknowledging the enforceability of  
15 application commitments, and certifying that the application meets all local, state, and federal  
16 law requirements to the best of the applicant's knowledge and understanding; and

17           11. Any other information reasonably requested by the Office of Cable  
18 Communications or the Council, or required by any provision of any other ordinance of the City  
19 or its Charter, or deemed pertinent by the applicant.

20           B. Upon receipt of an application for a new franchise, the Office of Cable Communications  
21 shall determine whether all of the information required under this Section 21.60.080 has been  
22



1 submitted. If it has, then the Office of Cable Communications shall consider the application to  
2 be complete.

3 C. The requirements and procedures set forth in this Section 21.60.080 do not apply to a  
4 request for renewal of an existing franchise. The procedure for renewal of an existing franchise  
5 is set forth in 21.60.100.

6 Section 12. Section 21.60.090 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance  
7 120138, is amended as follows:

8 ~~((21.60.090 Basic services.~~

9 ~~Any cable communications system permitted to be installed and operated under this~~  
10 ~~chapter shall, unless additional requirements are contained in the approved franchise:~~

11 ~~A. Be operationally capable of relaying to subscriber drops (i.e., terminals) if technically~~  
12 ~~practicable those television or radio broadcast signals for the carriage of which the grantee is~~  
13 ~~now or hereafter authorized by the Federal Communications Commission;~~

14 ~~B. If technically and economically practicable be constructed with technical capacity for~~  
15 ~~nonvoice return communication such that: (1) return communications are capable of being~~  
16 ~~received and processed both at the head end for the cable district in which the communication~~  
17 ~~originates and at a main head end for all cable districts served by the grantee; (2) return~~  
18 ~~communications will be transmitted on a band width below the lowest band width used by the~~  
19 ~~grantee to transmit television broadcast signals; (3) at the option of the subscriber, no return~~  
20 ~~signals will be communicated; and (4) the system will include technical safeguards calculated to~~  
21 ~~deter interception of return communications by third parties;~~

22 ~~C. Distribute color television signals which it receives in color;~~

1 ~~D. Provide in each cable district with a twelve (12) channel capacity one (1) composite channel~~  
2 ~~for local government, educational and public access uses, and in cable districts that have or are~~  
3 ~~expanded to twenty (20) channel capacity provide one (1) channel each for local government,~~  
4 ~~educational and public access such that:~~

- 5 1. ~~All access channels will be made available without charge,~~  
6 2. ~~Access channel assignments shall be made by the Office of Cable Communications in~~  
7 ~~consultation with the grantees and shall be made uniform throughout the City,~~  
8 3. ~~The requirement of this chapter that there be such access channels shall be reviewed~~  
9 ~~periodically as established in the franchise,~~  
10 4. ~~Programs on any access channel shall be available to all subscribers within a single access~~  
11 ~~district and to the extent technically practicable, cable district head-ends shall be interconnected~~  
12 ~~to permit transmission to all cable districts of signals transmitted on any access channel,~~  
13 5. ~~There shall be provided, without charge, facilities sufficient to originate live or videotaped~~  
14 ~~programs on the public access channel, which shall be available to the public on a~~  
15 ~~nondiscriminatory basis.~~

16 ~~Provided, however, that with respect to this subsection D the grantee shall not be required to~~  
17 ~~provide access facilities in excess of those required by the rules and regulations of the Federal~~  
18 ~~Communications Commission unless, upon application of the City, such access facility~~  
19 ~~requirements are waived by the Federal Communications Commission; and~~

20 ~~E. Have a minimum capacity of twenty (20) channels.))~~  
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**21.60.090 Procedure for authorizing a new franchise**

1  
2 A. If the Office of Cable Communications determines that an application for a new franchise  
3 is complete, it shall, as soon as is reasonably practicable as determined in the City's sole  
4 discretion following receipt of the completed application, perform a legal, technical, and  
5 financial review of the applicant's qualifications to construct, operate, and maintain the proposed  
6 cable system in the City. The Office of Cable Communications shall also notify the Council and  
7 all grantees of existing cable system franchises in the City that an application for a new franchise  
8 has been received and is under review, and post information about the application for the public  
9 on the website of the Office of Cable Communications.

10  
11 B. If the Office of Cable Communications determines that the applicant is qualified, it shall  
12 initiate negotiations of the proposed franchise terms with the applicant. All franchise terms shall  
13 comply with this Chapter 21.60.

14  
15 C. After reaching agreement with the applicant on the proposed franchise terms, the Office  
16 of Cable Communications shall prepare proposed legislation for the Mayor's consideration,  
17 which the Mayor may then submit to the Council for review and possible approval of the  
18 franchise. The proposed legislation shall include the proposed franchise and any other related  
19 agreements.

20  
21 D. Upon receipt of the proposed legislation, the Council shall promptly schedule a public  
22 hearing on the proposed legislation. The City Clerk shall publish notice of the hearing in a  
23 newspaper of general circulation within the City at least 14 days before the hearing. Only one  
24 proposed franchise shall be considered at any one hearing. The public notice shall state the name  
25 of the proposed grantee, the proposed franchise area, how the public can access the application  
26

1 and relevant material, the time and place of the public hearing, and an address to which the  
2 public may send written comments.

3 E. At the hearing, any member of the public may testify or submit written comments. The  
4 Council shall consider all testimony and comments in determining its action on the proposed  
5 legislation.

6 F. The Council shall consider the legal, technical, and financial qualifications of the  
7 applicant when considering whether to grant a franchise.

8 G. If the Council decides to grant the proposed new franchise, it shall do so by ordinance.

9 H. The grantee shall sign the franchise within the time period required in the ordinance  
10 authorizing the new franchise.

11 I. There will be no franchise if the grantee fails to sign the franchise as required in this  
12 Section 21.60.090.

13  
14  
15 Section 13. Section 21.60.100 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance  
16 107025, is amended as follows:

17 ~~((21.60.100 Nonbasic services.~~

18 ~~Any cable communication system permitted to be installed and operated under this chapter may~~  
19 ~~also if technically practicable engage in the business of:~~

20  
21 ~~A. Transmitting original cablecast programming not received through television broadcast~~  
22 ~~signals;~~

23 ~~B. Transmitting television pictures, film and videotaped programs not received through~~  
24 ~~broadcast television signals, whether or not encoded or processed to permit reception by only~~  
25 ~~selected receivers or subscribers; and~~  
26

C. ~~Transmitting and receiving all other signals: digital, voice, audio-visual.))~~

**21.60.100 Procedure for authorizing a renewed franchise**

A. Requests for franchise renewal will be handled by the City in a manner consistent with 47

C.F.R. § 546, as amended, and any implementing regulations.

B. All terms of the renewed franchise shall comply with this Chapter 21.60. After reaching agreement on the proposed franchise terms with the grantee seeking renewal, the Office of Cable

Communications shall prepare proposed legislation for the Mayor's consideration, which the

Mayor may then submit to the Council for review and possible approval of the proposed

franchise. The proposed legislation shall include the proposed franchise and any other related agreements.

C. Upon receipt of the proposed legislation, the Council shall promptly schedule a public

hearing on the proposed legislation. The City Clerk shall publish notice of the hearing in a

newspaper of general circulation in the City at least 14 days before the hearing. Only one

proposed franchise shall be considered at any one hearing. The public notice shall state the name

of the proposed grantee, the proposed franchise area, how the public can access the application

and relevant material, the time and place of the public hearing, and an address to which the

public may send written comments.

D. At the hearing, any member of the public may testify or submit written comments. The

Council shall consider all testimony and comments in determining its action on the proposed

legislation.

E. The Council shall consider the legal, technical, and financial qualifications of the

applicant when considering whether to renew a franchise.

1 F. If the Council decides to grant the proposed renewed franchise, it shall do so by  
2 ordinance.

3 G. The grantee shall sign the franchise within the time period required in the ordinance  
4 authorizing the renewed franchise.

5 H. There will be no franchise if the grantee fails to sign the franchise as required in this  
6 Section 21.60.100.

7  
8 Section 14. Section 21.60.110 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance  
9 107025, is amended as follows:

10 ~~((21.60.110 Subscriber complaints.~~

11 ~~In providing the services designated in Sections 21.60.090 and 21.60.100, and excepting~~  
12 ~~circumstances beyond grantee's control such as riots, civil disturbances and acts of God, the~~  
13 ~~grantee shall:~~

14  
15 ~~A. Limit system failures to a minimum time duration by locating and commencing correction of~~  
16 ~~malfunctioning equipment promptly, but in no event longer than twenty-four (24) hours after~~  
17 ~~occurrence irrespective of holidays or other nonbusiness hours;~~

18 ~~B. Upon complaint by a subscriber and at the request of the Office of Cable Communications,~~  
19 ~~demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Office of Cable Communications that a signal being~~  
20 ~~delivered meets the technical and performance standards of strength and quality set forth in the~~  
21 ~~rules and regulations of the Federal Communications Commission;~~

22  
23 ~~C. Render efficient service, making system repairs promptly and interrupting service only for~~  
24 ~~good cause and for the shortest time possible. Planned interruptions, insofar as possible, shall be~~  
25

1 ~~preceded by notice given to subscribers twenty-four (24) hours in advance and shall occur during~~  
2 ~~periods of minimum use of the system;~~

3 ~~D. Maintain an office in or near the City which shall be so operated that complaints and requests~~  
4 ~~for repairs or adjustments may be received at any time. The current local telephone number(s) for~~  
5 ~~the office and complaint service shall be listed in telephone directories distributed in grantee's~~  
6 ~~area of service;~~

7  
8 ~~E. Maintain a written record or "log" listing date of system failures and specific customer~~  
9 ~~complaints other than those concerning system failures, and describing the nature of the~~  
10 ~~complaint and when and what action was taken by grantee in response thereto. Records relating~~  
11 ~~to each complaint shall be kept at grantee's local office for a period of three (3) years and shall be~~  
12 ~~available for public inspection during regular business hours by the Office of Cable~~  
13 ~~Communications.))~~

14  
15 **21.60.110 Transfers or assignment**

16 A. Any franchise granted pursuant to this Chapter 21.60 is a privilege to be held by the  
17 original grantee. No sale or transfer of the franchise, or sale, transfer, or fundamental corporate  
18 change of or in grantee, including, but not limited to, a fundamental corporate change in  
19 grantee's parent corporation or any entity having a controlling interest in grantee, the sale of a  
20 controlling interest in the grantee's assets, a merger including the merger of a subsidiary and  
21 parent entity, consolidation, or the creation of a subsidiary or affiliate entity, shall take place  
22 until the City approves the same pursuant to this Section 21.60.110. Moreover, no sale, transfer,  
23 exchange, or assignment of stock in grantee, or grantee's parent corporation or any other entity  
24 having a controlling interest in grantee, so as to create a new controlling interest therein, shall  
25  
26

1 take place until the City approves the same pursuant to this Section 21.60.110. The term  
2 “controlling interest” as used herein is not limited to majority stock ownership, but includes  
3 actual working control in whatever manner exercised. For purposes of this Section 21.60.110  
4 any of the events set forth in this subsection 21.60.110.A are collectively referred to as a  
5 “transfer.”

6 B. Notwithstanding the requirements of subsection 21.60.110.A, approval is not required if  
7 the grantee only grants a security interest in its franchise and/or assets to secure an indebtedness.

8 C. An application for any transfer approval shall be sent in writing to the Office of Cable  
9 Communications.

10 D. In a manner consistent with federal law, the Office of Cable Communications shall  
11 conduct a legal, technical, and financial review of the proposed transferee’s qualifications, and, if  
12 the transferee is deemed qualified, submit a report, recommendation, and proposed legislation to  
13 the Council. The proposed transferee shall pay all actual and reasonable costs incurred by the  
14 City in reviewing and evaluating an application for transfer, whether or not the Council approves  
15 the transfer.

16 E. The Council shall consider the legal, technical, and financial qualifications of the  
17 proposed transferee and its ability and agreement to comply with all provisions of this Chapter  
18 21.60 when considering whether to approve a proposed transfer. If the Council decides to grant  
19 the proposed transfer, it shall do so by ordinance.

20 F. Notwithstanding the requirements of subsection 21.60.110.A, approval is not required if  
21 the grantee sells, assigns, or transfers an ownership or other interest in the grantee, the cable  
22 system, or the franchise to an affiliate or parent of the grantee, so long as (1) the proposed  
23



1 assignee or transferee is an entity that controls, is controlled by, or is under the same common  
2 control as the grantee, (2) the proposed assignee or transferee shows financial responsibility as  
3 may be determined necessary by the City, (3) the proposed assignee or transferee agrees in  
4 writing to comply with all of the provisions of the franchise, and (4) the grantee notifies the City  
5 within 30 days of the effective date of any affiliate transfer.

6 Section 15. Section 21.60.120 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance  
7 107025, is amended as follows:

8 ~~((21.60.120 Educational and municipal service.~~

9 ~~A. With respect to the local government and educational access channels:~~

10 ~~1. On condition of reimbursement of grantee's actual cost for installation and periodic~~  
11 ~~maintenance, the grantee shall provide a cable return length if technically practicable permitting~~  
12 ~~transmission of originated program material between the head-end of the grantee and:~~  
13

14 ~~a. Each building designated by the Office of Cable Communications and located within a cable~~  
15 ~~district for which the grantee holds a franchise and which is owned and controlled by the City~~  
16 ~~and used for public purposes and not for residential use (fire and police stations excepted), and~~  
17

18 ~~b. Each state-accredited public or private educational institution located within a cable district for~~  
19 ~~which the grantee holds the franchise and which requests such installation; and~~  
20

21 ~~2. If the grantee elects to provide facilities for production of program materials for use on the~~  
22 ~~local government or educational access channels, the grantee shall charge no more than~~  
23 ~~reasonable production costs, a schedule of which charges shall be filed with the Office of Cable~~  
24 ~~Communications on January 2nd of each year.~~  
25

1 ~~B. With respect to basic cable services: the grantee shall provide if technically practicable all~~  
2 ~~subscriber services and a tie-in connection without cost (except for actual cost of installation in~~  
3 ~~the case of an underground connection), to each state-accredited public or private educational~~  
4 ~~institution and each building designated by the Office of Cable Communications which is owned~~  
5 ~~and controlled by the City and used for public purposes and not residential use (fire and police~~  
6 ~~stations excepted), when the cable system passes any such institution or building.)~~

7  
8 **21.60.120 Termination of franchise**

9 A. The City may terminate by ordinance any franchise granted pursuant to the provisions of  
10 this Chapter 21.60 in the event of the failure, refusal, or neglect by grantee to comply with any  
11 material requirement contained in this Chapter 21.60, a franchise, or rule or regulation of the  
12 Office of Cable Communications validly adopted pursuant to this Chapter 21.60, including, but  
13 not limited to, if a grantee refuses, neglects, or fails to:

14  
15 1. Construct, operate, or maintain the cable system in compliance with applicable  
16 construction and safety codes, including, but not limited to, the National Electrical Safety Code  
17 and the National Electrical Code;

18  
19 2. Provide cable service to its subscribers in accordance with the terms of this  
20 Chapter 21.60 and the franchise, including all minimum requirements set forth in Section  
21 21.60.060;

22 3. Comply with the conditions of occupancy of any rights-of-way;

23 4. Provide, within 30 days of a request from the Office of Cable Communications,  
24 all records requested for the purposes of auditing franchise fees, taxes, or other payments due the

1 City, or in connection with another matter related to ensuring compliance with this Chapter

2 21.60, the franchise, other agreements, or applicable law;

3 5. Indemnify, defend and hold harmless the City as required by Section 21.60.150;

4 or

5 6. Provide insurance as required by Section 21.60.160.

6 B. Cable system failure in all or a portion of any franchise area is noncompliance with a  
7 material requirement of this Chapter 21.60 if such failure continues for 24 consecutive hours on  
8 ten or more occasions during any 12 consecutive calendar months, or for ten consecutive days.

9 C. The City may also terminate a franchise if a grantee commits fraud or deceit upon the  
10 City.

11 D. In the event the City intends to terminate a franchise, the City shall provide a written  
12 notice to grantee, identifying the reason, advising grantee of the City's intent to terminate the  
13 franchise, and demanding that grantee cure the refusal, neglect, or failure within a certain time  
14 period, which shall be no less than 15 days. The notice shall state that the grantee is entitled to  
15 appeal the City's findings to the Hearing Examiner, in accordance with Chapter 3.02, within 15  
16 days of receipt of such notice. If, within the time period specified in the notice, the problem is  
17 not cured to the City's satisfaction, and if the grantee has not filed a timely notice of appeal, then  
18 the City may terminate the franchise by ordinance as of a date to be specified in the ordinance.  
19 The ordinance may also specify that the franchise will only terminate if the grantee does not  
20 comply with the City's requirements within such period as the City may also fix in such  
21 ordinance.

1 E. If the grantee files a timely notice of appeal, pursuant to Chapter 3.02, of the City's  
2 notice of intent to terminate its franchise, the Hearing Examiner shall schedule and conduct a  
3 hearing in accordance with the Hearing Examiner Rules of Practice and Procedure. The Hearing  
4 Examiner shall:

5 1. Determine whether any refusal, neglect, or failure by grantee to do or comply  
6 with any material requirement contained in this Chapter 21.60, a franchise, or rule or regulation  
7 of the Office of Cable Communications validly adopted to this Chapter 21.60, has occurred; and

8 2. If so, determine whether such refusal, neglect, or failure by grantee was beyond  
9 the control of grantee as set forth in Section 21.60.270.

10 F. If the Hearing Examiner determines that no refusal, neglect, or failure has occurred, then  
11 the franchise will not terminate.

12 G. If the Hearing Examiner determines that a refusal, neglect, or failure has occurred, but  
13 that it was caused by events beyond the control of the grantee as set forth in Section 21.60.270,  
14 then the franchise will not terminate and the requirements of Section 21.60.270 will apply. The  
15 Director of the Office of Cable Communications may enter into an agreement with the grantee  
16 concerning an appropriate action to cure the grounds on which the proposed franchise  
17 termination was based.

18 H. If the Hearing Examiner determines that a refusal, neglect, or failure has occurred, and  
19 that the refusal, neglect, or failure by the grantee was within the grantee's control, then the  
20 Hearing Examiner shall report such determination to the Council and to the Office of Cable  
21 Communications, and the City may by ordinance declare that the franchise of such grantee shall  
22 be terminated as of a date to be specified in the ordinance. The ordinance may also specify that  
23  
24  
25  
26

1 the franchise will only terminate if the grantee does not comply with the City's requirements  
2 within such period as the City may also fix in such ordinance.

3 I. The termination of any franchise shall in no way affect any rights of the City that survive  
4 termination under the franchise or any provision of law.

5 Section 16. A new Section 21.60.125 of the Seattle Municipal Code is added as follows:

6 **21.60.125 Procedures in the event of expiration, termination, revocation, or non-renewal**

7  
8 A. Continuity of service

9 1. A grantee shall operate the cable system pursuant to this Chapter 21.60 and its  
10 franchise without interruption, except as otherwise provided by this Chapter 21.60 or its  
11 franchise. If at any time the grantee's franchise is revoked, terminated, or not renewed upon  
12 expiration in accordance with the provisions of federal law, a grantee shall, at the City's request,  
13 as trustee for its successor in interest, operate the cable system for a temporary period (the  
14 "transition period") as necessary to maintain service to subscribers, and shall cooperate with the  
15 City to assure an orderly transition from it to the City or another franchise holder.  
16

17 2. During the transition period, a grantee shall neither sell any of the cable system  
18 assets serving City customers nor make any physical, material, administrative, or operational  
19 change that would tend to degrade the quality of service to subscribers, decrease gross revenues,  
20 or materially increase expenses without the express permission, in writing, of the City.  
21

22 3. The transition period shall be no longer than the reasonable period required to  
23 arrange for an orderly transfer of the cable system to the City or to another franchise holder,  
24 unless mutually agreed to by a grantee and the City. During the transition period, a grantee will  
25

1 continue to be obligated to comply with the terms and conditions of this Chapter 21.60, its  
2 franchise, and applicable laws and regulations.

3 4. If a grantee abandons the cable system during the franchise term or fails to  
4 operate the cable system in accordance with the terms of this Chapter 21.60 and its franchise  
5 during any transition period, the City, at its option, may operate a grantee's cable system,  
6 designate another entity to operate the grantee's cable system temporarily until the grantee  
7 restores service under conditions acceptable to the City or until a grantee's franchise is revoked  
8 and a new grantee selected by the City is providing service, or obtain an injunction requiring a  
9 grantee to continue operations.  
10

11 5. For its management services during the transition period, the grantee shall be  
12 entitled to receive as compensation the "net income" generated during the transition period. For  
13 the purposes of this subsection 21.60.125.A.5, "net income" means the amount remaining after  
14 deducting from gross revenues all of the actual, direct and indirect expenses associated with  
15 operating the grantee's cable system, including the franchise fee, interest, depreciation, and all  
16 taxes, all as determined in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.  
17

18 B. City's right to purchase

19 1. If at any time the grantee's franchise is revoked, terminated, or not renewed upon  
20 expiration in accordance with the provisions of federal law, the City shall have the option to  
21 purchase the cable system.  
22

23 2. The City may, at any time thereafter, offer in writing to purchase the grantee's  
24 cable system. The grantee shall have 30 days from receipt of a written offer from the City within  
25 which to accept or reject the offer.  
26

1           3.       In any case where the City elects to purchase the cable system, the purchase shall  
2 be closed within 120 days of the date of the City's audit of a current profit and loss statement of  
3 the grantee. The City shall pay for the cable system in cash or certified funds, and the grantee  
4 shall deliver appropriate bills of sale and other instruments of conveyance.

5           4.       The price for the cable system shall be determined as follows:

6               a.       In the case of the expiration of a franchise without renewal, at fair market  
7 value determined on the basis of the grantee's cable system valued as a going concern, but with  
8 no value allocated to the franchise itself. In order to obtain the fair market value, this valuation  
9 shall be reduced by the amount of any lien, encumbrance, or other obligation of the grantee that  
10 shall be reduced by the amount of any lien, encumbrance, or other obligation of the grantee that  
11 the City would assume; or

12               b.       In the case of revocation for cause, the equitable price of the grantee's  
13 cable system.

14  
15 C.       City's right to remove

16           1.       In the event that a purchase has not been completed in accordance with subsection  
17 21.60.125.B, the City may order the removal of the above-ground cable system facilities and the  
18 underground cable system facilities from the City at the grantee's sole expense within a  
19 reasonable period of time as determined by the City. In removing the cable system facilities, the  
20 Grantee shall refill, at its own expense, any excavation that is made by it and shall leave all  
21 rights-of-way, public places and private property in as good condition as that prevailing prior to  
22 the grantee's removal of its equipment without affecting the electrical or telephone cable wires or  
23 attachments. The indemnification and insurance provisions of the franchise shall remain in full  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28

1 force and effect during the period of removal, and the grantee shall not be entitled to  
2 compensation.

3 2. If the grantee fails to complete any removal required by this subsection  
4 21.60.125.C to the City's satisfaction, after written notice to the grantee, the City may cause the  
5 work to be done and the grantee shall reimburse the City for the costs incurred within 30 days  
6 after receipt of an itemized list of the costs.

7  
8 D. The City may seek legal and/or equitable relief to enforce the provisions of this Section  
9 21.60.125.

10 Section 17. Section 21.60.130 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance  
11 107025, is amended as follows:

12 ~~((21.60.130 Compatibility and interconnection.~~

13  
14 ~~A. It is the desire of the City in enacting this chapter that all cable communication systems~~  
15 ~~franchised under this chapter shall, insofar as financially and technically feasible, be compatible~~  
16 ~~one with another and with systems adjacent to the City.~~

17 ~~B. Whenever it is financially and technically feasible, the grantee shall so construct, operate, and~~  
18 ~~modify the system as to be able to tie the same into all other systems within and adjacent to the~~  
19 ~~City.))~~

20  
21 **21.60.130 Subscriber rates**

22 A. By accepting a franchise pursuant to the terms and conditions imposed by this Chapter  
23 21.60, a grantee agrees that the City has the authority and right to regulate the grantee's cable  
24 service rates to the maximum extent permitted by law or applicable FCC rules and regulations.

25  
26 B. All charges to subscribers shall be consistent with a schedule of rates established by the



1 grantee for all services, installations, and equipment offered.

2 C. Unless exempt by federal law or FCC rule or regulation from any requirement to do so, a  
3 grantee shall not, with regard to rates and any other conditions of service, within the franchise  
4 area, discriminate or grant any preference or advantage to any person; provided, however, that a  
5 grantee may establish different rates for different services as long as the grantee does not  
6 discriminate between subscribers of the same services. Nothing in this Chapter 21.60 either  
7 prevents a grantee from offering promotional or bulk discount rates as long as such discounts are  
8 available in a uniform and consistent manner in accordance with existing law or prohibits trade  
9 promotions customary in the industry as long as such trade promotions are not otherwise  
10 prohibited by law.

11 D. Unless exempt by federal law or FCC rule or regulation from any requirement to do so,  
12 any applicant for a new franchise or any grantee operating under an existing franchise and  
13 proposing a change in rates shall send to the Office of Cable Communications a schedule of the  
14 proposed new or changed rates together with supporting financial data. The Office of Cable  
15 Communications shall review submitted materials and verify that the proposed rates reflect  
16 allowable increases, in accordance with existing law and FCC rules and regulations.

17 E. A grantee shall give to subscribers and to the Office of Cable Communications a  
18 minimum of 30 days' advance written notice of any proposed change in rates.

19 Section 18. Section 21.60.140 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance  
20 107025, is amended as follows:

21 ~~((21.60.140 Uses permitted.~~

1 ~~Any franchise granted pursuant to the provisions of this chapter shall authorize and permit the~~  
2 ~~grantee to engage in the business of operating and providing a cable communications system in~~  
3 ~~the City, and for that purpose to erect, install, construct, prepare, replace, reconstruct, maintain~~  
4 ~~and retain in, on, over, under, upon, across and along any street such poles, wire, cable,~~  
5 ~~conductors, ducts, conduit, vaults, manholes, amplifiers, appliances, attachments and other~~  
6 ~~property as may be necessary and appurtenant to the cable communications system and in~~  
7 ~~addition, so to use, operate, and provide similar facilities by means of properties (i.e., systems of~~  
8 ~~components thereof) rented or leased from other persons, including but not limited to, any public~~  
9 ~~utility or other grantee franchised or permitted to do business in the City; provided, however, that~~  
10 ~~nothing contained in this section shall relieve the grantee from the requirements of Ordinance~~  
11 ~~90047 relating to the use of public streets or from the requirements of any other ordinance, rule~~  
12 ~~or regulation enacted or promulgated by or on behalf of the City in connection with the exercise~~  
13 ~~of the City's police powers.))~~

16 **21.60.140 Performance bonds**

17 A. No later than the date by which the ordinance requires the grantee to sign the franchise, a  
18 grantee shall deliver to the Office of Cable Communications for approval a good and sufficient  
19 bond in the penal sum of not less than \$100,000 and maintain the bond continuously in effect.

21 The bond shall be executed by a surety company authorized and qualified to do business in the  
22 state as a surety or by other sureties acceptable to the Office of Cable Communications and in a  
23 form approved by the City Attorney. The bond shall stipulate that grantee shall strictly comply  
24 with each and every condition and covenant of its franchise. The Office of Cable  
25 Communications shall file the approved bond with the City Clerk.

1 B. If at any time during the franchise period the Office of Cable Communications  
2 determines that the conduct of a grantee warrants a higher assurance under the bond, then the  
3 Office of Cable Communications may require the grantee to furnish a new or additional bond in  
4 such amount as may be specified and with such sureties as are acceptable to the Office of Cable  
5 Communications. The grantee shall upon demand furnish such new or additional bond and  
6 maintain it continuously in effect.

7  
8 Section 19. Section 21.60.150 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance  
9 105427, is amended as follows:

10 ~~((21.60.150 Franchise term.~~

11 ~~Each franchise granted by the City under this chapter shall be for a term of fifteen (15) years~~  
12 ~~from the date of its acceptance by the grantee.))~~

13 **21.60.150 Indemnification**

14  
15 A. General indemnification. By accepting a franchise granted pursuant to this Chapter 21.60,  
16 grantee covenants and agrees for itself, its officers, agents, employees, successors, and assigns, at  
17 all times to indemnify, defend, and hold the City, its officers, officials, boards, commissions,  
18 agents, and employees (collectively the “indemnified parties”) harmless from and against any  
19 and all lawsuits, claims, causes of actions, injury, damages, judgments, settlements, disability,  
20 losses, liabilities, costs, or expenses (including attorneys’ fees and disbursements of counsel) of  
21 any nature that any of the indemnified parties may at any time suffer, sustain, or incur arising out  
22 of, or based upon, or in any way connected with any act or omission of the grantee, its  
23 successors, or assigns, its parent or subsidiary corporations, its employees, agents, contractors, or  
24 subcontractors, or any of their employees, agents, contractors, or subcontractors, including  
25  
26

1 without limitation any construction, excavation, reconstruction, readjustment, repair,  
2 maintenance, operation, or use of the right-of-way or other property of the City, or by exercising  
3 any privilege conferred by this Chapter 21.60 or by such franchise, and including any neglect or  
4 omission to keep the cable system in a safe condition. The grantee's obligation to indemnify,  
5 defend, and hold the indemnified parties harmless includes the obligation to pay attorneys' fees,  
6 expert fees, and all other costs of defending any indemnified claim, including all costs incurred  
7 by the City in recovering against the grantee. The grantee shall consult and cooperate with the  
8 City in the grantee's defense of the indemnified parties. If judgment is rendered against the  
9 indemnified parties in any such suit or action, the grantee shall fully satisfy such judgment within  
10 90 days after such suit or action has been finally determined. To the maximum extent permitted  
11 by law, the grantee's indemnity obligation shall not be extinguished or reduced in the event that  
12 an act or omission of the indemnified parties is a concurrent or contributing cause of the claim,  
13 except that no indemnity shall be owed in the event that the cause of any claim is the sole  
14 negligence of the indemnified parties.

17 B. Indemnification for relocation. By accepting a franchise granted pursuant to this Chapter  
18 21.60, grantee covenants and agrees to indemnify the City for any damages, claims, additional  
19 costs, or expenses assessed against, or payable by, the City arising out of or resulting, directly or  
20 indirectly, from the grantee's failure to remove, adjust, or relocate any of its facilities located on  
21 City property or right-of-way in a timely manner in accordance with the franchise and relocation  
22 schedule, unless grantee's failure arises directly from the City's negligence or willful misconduct.

24 Section 20. Section 21.60.160 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance  
25 105427, is amended as follows:  
26

1 ~~((21.60.160 Termination of franchise.~~

2 The City may terminate by ordinance enacted for such purpose any franchise granted pursuant to  
3 the provisions of this chapter in the event of the wilful failure, refusal, or neglect by grantee to do  
4 or comply with any material and substantial requirement contained in this chapter or rule or  
5 regulation of the Office of Cable Communications validly adopted pursuant to this chapter.  
6 System failure in all or a major part of any cable district shall constitute noncompliance with a  
7 material requirement of this chapter if such failure continues for a period of ten (10) consecutive  
8 days or for a period of twenty four (24) consecutive hours on thirty (30) or more occasions  
9 during any period of twelve (12) consecutive calendar months.))

11 **21.60.160 Insurance**

12 As long as grantee possesses any right or privilege granted pursuant to this Chapter 21.60  
13 or franchise, and before beginning any work in the City, the grantee shall deliver to the Office of  
14 Cable Communications a policy or policies of insurance (or a certificate thereof) showing that it  
15 has procured and is maintaining at all times the following insurance, in a form approved by the  
16 Office of Cable Communications, including an endorsement naming the City as an additional  
17 insured or blanket additional insured subject to a standard "Separation of Insureds" clause, and  
18 shall be primary and non-contributory with any insurance or self-insurance coverage maintained  
19 by the City, protecting and holding the City, its officers, boards, commissions, agents, and  
20 employees, harmless from any and all damages of any kind that may arise in connection with the  
21 services or work to be performed under this Chapter 21.60 or franchise, whether or not such  
22 damages are alleged to arise or result from acts or omissions that are the sole negligence of the  
23 City, its officers, employees, or agents, or the combined negligence of the City and others:

1 A. Commercial General Liability insurance for a minimum limit of liability of \$2,000,000  
2 each occurrence Combined Single Limit (CSL) bodily injury and property damage for  
3 premises/operations, products/completed operations, personal/advertising injury, contractual,  
4 independent contractors, and employers'/stop gap liability that shall not exclude  
5 XCU/subsidence perils or any similar perils;

6 B. Automobile Liability insurance for owned, non-owned, leased, or hired vehicles, as  
7 applicable, with minimum limits of \$2,000,000 CSL; and

8 C. Workers Compensation insurance for Washington State as required by Title 51 RCW;  
9 provided the Office of Cable Communications may increase the minimum policy limits and  
10 coverage from time to time as it deems appropriate to adequately protect the City and the public.

11 The grantee specifically acknowledges that the limits of liability specified in this Section are  
12 minimum limits of liability only and, except for the policy limits, shall not be construed to limit  
13 the liability of the grantee or any of the grantee's insurers. Each insurance policy shall be issued  
14 by an insurer rated A: VII or higher in the A.M. Best's Key Rating Guide, unless procured as a  
15 surplus lines placement by a licensed Washington State surplus lines broker, or as may otherwise  
16 be approved by the Office of Cable Communications. Each policy shall provide for at least 30  
17 days' notice to the Director of the Office of Cable Communications of any change, cancellation,  
18 or lapse thereof, or as much notice as is allowed under the policy, and that "This policy is issued  
19 and intended to comply with the conditions and requirements of Section 21.60.160 of the Seattle  
20 Municipal Code."

21  
22  
23  
24 Section 21. Section 21.60.170 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance  
25 105427, is amended as follows:  
26

~~((21.60.170 Proceeding before Hearing Examiner.~~

~~The Office of Cable Communications shall initiate a proceeding before a Hearing Examiner pursuant to the Administrative Code of the City for the purpose of having the Examiner make the determinations contemplated by Section 21.60.180 if:~~

~~A. The Office of Cable Communications determines that by reason of system failure not resulting from circumstances beyond its control the grantee has failed to comply with any material or substantial requirement of this chapter; or~~

~~B. The Office of Cable Communications determines that the grantee has failed or refused or neglected to do or comply with any material or substantial requirement or limitation contained in this chapter or other ordinance (other than system failure) or any rule or regulation of the Office of Cable Communications validly adopted pursuant to this chapter; and such failure, refusal, or neglect has continued for a period of thirty (30) days following written demand by the Office of Cable Communications to do or comply with such requirement, limitation, term, condition, rule or regulation; or~~

~~C. The Office of Cable Communications has received a petition requesting institution of such proceedings and signed by at least twenty five (25) percent of the subscribers within the cable district served by the grantee; provided however, that this subsection shall not be so interpreted as to preclude consideration by the Office of Cable Communications of complaints by nonsubscribers concerning matters in which such nonsubscriber(s) have a material interest.))~~

**21.60.170 Service to low-income households, and other service, build and construction requirements**

**A. Service to low-income households**

1           1.       New franchise

2                   a.       Each new franchise shall allow grantee flexibility as to where and how to  
3 provide cable service within its franchise area. As provided in subsection 21.60.170.A.1.b,  
4 grantee's actual service area must satisfy a low-income service provision requirement within two  
5 years of the effective date of the franchise. Grantee is encouraged to satisfy that requirement as  
6 soon within that period as is feasible.

7  
8                   b.       At all times after the date that is two years after the effective date of any  
9 new franchise, a significant portion of the total households to which grantee offers cable service  
10 shall be households that fall below the median income level as measured by census block group  
11 data.

12           2.       Renewed franchise. At all times, a significant portion of the total households to  
13 which grantee offers cable service shall be households that fall below the median income level as  
14 measured by census block group data.

15  
16           3.       All grantees to verify low-income requirement. Grantee shall meet with and  
17 provide documentation to the Office of Cable Communications not less frequently than  
18 semiannually to demonstrate that it has met the low-income service provision requirement in  
19 subsection 21.60.170.A.1.b (for a new franchise, if applicable at the time of a particular meeting)  
20 or in subsection 21.60.170.A.2 (for a renewed franchise). Quarterly, the Office of Cable  
21 Communications shall provide to Council a copy of grantee's documentation demonstrating that  
22 grantee has met its low-income service provision requirement along with the Office of Cable  
23 Communications' analysis of grantee's documentation. If grantee does not demonstrate  
24 compliance, the Office of Cable Communications shall report the noncompliance to Council in  
25  
26



1 its quarterly report. The Office of Cable Communications shall provide these quarterly reports  
2 for the first five years of a new franchise, and for the first two years of a renewed franchise, and  
3 shall continue to provide these quarterly reports thereafter if so requested by the chair of the  
4 Council committee with oversight responsibility for cable issues.

5 a. If the Office of Cable Communications determines that the requirement is  
6 not being met, it may impose other requirements, including but not limited to (i) imposing  
7 penalties; (ii) requiring grantee to expand the provision of cable service to other areas of the city,  
8 to ensure that the low-income service provision requirement will be met; and (iii) mandating any  
9 other action intended to incent compliance with the low-income service provision requirement.

10 b. The Office of Cable Communications may also impose penalties for  
11 grantee's failure to comply with such additional requirements within a specified time.

12 4. The Office of Cable Communications shall develop procedures and metrics to  
13 implement this subsection 21.60.170.A to describe how compliance with the low-income service  
14 provision requirement will be measured and what threshold of service will be deemed to  
15 constitute compliance.

16 B. Other service requirements

17 1. Each franchise shall document, to the satisfaction of the Office of Cable  
18 Communications, the service area where grantee intends to initially offer cable service and, if  
19 applicable, where grantee currently offers cable service.

20 2. Grantee shall not deny cable service to any customer based upon race, nor shall  
21 grantee base decisions about construction or maintenance of the cable system or facilities upon  
22 race.

1 C. Build out requirements. The build out requirements, if any, for a franchise shall be set  
2 forth in grantee's franchise.

3 D. Construction requirements. The construction of new cable facilities or the extension of  
4 existing cable facilities by grantee shall be accomplished in accordance with a plan, design, and  
5 construction schedule first submitted to and approved by the Office of Cable Communications  
6 with respect to the requirements of this Chapter 21.60, and then submitted to and approved by  
7 the Director of Transportation with respect to the requirements of Title 15. In either case, grantee  
8 shall at all times comply with this Chapter 21.60 and with Title 15 as the same now reads or is  
9 later amended, except that if this Chapter 21.60 and Title 15 are in any respect inconsistent the  
10 provisions of Title 15 control.

12 Section 22. Section 21.60.180 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance  
13 105427, is amended as follows:

14 ~~((21.60.180 Determinations by Hearing Examiner.~~

15 ~~In any proceeding as set out in Section 21.60.170, it shall be the duty of the Hearing Examiner~~  
16 ~~after receiving testimony and evidence from all interested parties:~~

17 ~~A. To determine whether any such failure, refusal or neglect by grantee to do or comply with any~~  
18 ~~such material requirement, limitation, term, condition, rule or regulation has occurred; and~~

19 ~~B. If so, to determine whether such failure, refusal or neglect by grantee was with just cause; and~~

20 ~~C. If such failure, refusal or neglect by the grantee was with just cause, to direct compliance~~  
21 ~~within such time and upon such terms and conditions as are reasonable;~~

1 ~~Provided, however, if the issue before the Hearing Examiner involves noncompliance with~~  
2 ~~Section 21.60.380 he shall make a recommendation to the Council regarding a time certain for~~  
3 ~~compliance by grantee.))~~

4 **21.60.180 Approval of the Director of Transportation required for right-of-way use**

5 A. If it is practicable to use poles already in the right-of-way, the grantee shall use such  
6 poles and shall comply with Chapter 15.32 in doing so. If grantee does not use poles already in  
7 the right-of-way, all poles, cables, wires, antennae, conduits, or appurtenances shall be  
8 constructed and erected in compliance with the provisions of the pole attachment permit(s) and  
9 street use permit(s) authorizing their installation.

10  
11 B. If, in any part of the franchise area for which the grantee has been awarded a franchise,  
12 the City proposes to place electric power or communications wires and cables underground or to  
13 require the same, grantee may place facilities in the underground project, but if grantee does not  
14 do so and subsequently enters the area to serve it, grantee shall place its facilities underground.  
15 In areas where all other utilities have their facilities underground the grantee shall underground  
16 its facilities in accordance with Section 15.32.130.

17  
18 C. Nothing in this Chapter 21.60 prevents the City or any local improvement district or  
19 utility local improvement district from sewerage, paving, grading, altering, or otherwise  
20 improving or reimproving any of the streets of the City, including the installation of City-owned  
21 utilities, and the City is not liable for any damages resulting to the grantee by reason of the  
22 performance of such work or by exercise of such rights of the City. This Chapter 21.60 does not  
23 deprive the City of any rights or privileges that it now has, or that may hereafter be conferred  
24 upon it, to regulate and control the use of the right-of-way. If any right-of-way is improved or the  
25  
26  
27  
28

1 grade thereof changed, modified, raised, or lowered, or the size, position, or location of any City-  
2 owned public utilities changed, modified, or altered, any of the installations belonging to the  
3 grantee that may be affected by or conflict with any such changes, alterations, or modifications  
4 shall be promptly adjusted, removed, altered, raised, lowered, or otherwise modified to conform  
5 to the improvements or changes made, by and at the expense of grantee and in conformity with  
6 the requirements of the Director of Transportation.

7  
8 D. If it is necessary for the grantee, in the erection of poles or in the construction of  
9 underground pipes or conduits, to excavate in any portion of any right-of-way, the grantee shall  
10 file with the Director of Transportation an application for permission to do such work in  
11 accordance with Title 15, and obtain a permit from or approval of the Director of Transportation  
12 before beginning such work. If grantee disturbs the surface of any City right-of-way for any  
13 purpose, grantee shall be responsible for its restoration in accordance with Section 15.32.160.

14 The City has the right to make use of any or all of the poles of the grantee for wires, cables, and  
15 conductors to carry any City-owned systems or facilities requiring such use.

16  
17 E. If the Director of Transportation grants permission for use of any right-of-way of the City  
18 for the purpose of moving any building or structure, then grantee shall raise or remove any wires,  
19 cables, or conductors that may obstruct the removal of such building or structure in accordance  
20 with Section 15.32.110.

21  
22 Section 23. Section 21.60.190 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance  
23 105427, is amended as follows:

24 ~~((21.60.190 Declaration of termination of franchise.~~

1 ~~If the Hearing Examiner shall determine that such failure, refusal or neglect by the grantee was~~  
2 ~~without just cause, he shall report such determination to the City Council whereupon the City~~  
3 ~~may by ordinance declare that the franchise of such grantee shall be terminated and forfeited as~~  
4 ~~of a date to be specified in such ordinance unless there be compliance by the grantee within such~~  
5 ~~period as the City may also fix in such ordinance. Such ordinance shall be published once in the~~  
6 ~~City official newspaper within three (3) days after the same shall have become a law.))~~

7  
8 **21.60.190 Permission from property owner or tenant for installation**

9 A. If cable passes over or under private or publicly owned property, grantee is solely  
10 responsible for obtaining all necessary permission from the property owner.

11 B. Grantee shall not install or attach any of its facilities to any property without first  
12 securing the written permission of the owner or tenant of any property involved, or of such other  
13 person who has the right to approve or disapprove the attachment (authorized party), except if  
14 there is an existing utility easement. If such permission or easement is later revoked, the grantee  
15 at the request of the authorized party shall promptly remove any of its facilities and promptly  
16 restore the property to its original condition at grantee's expense. Grantee shall perform all such  
17 installations and removals in compliance with state and local law and shall be responsible for any  
18 damage to residences or other property caused by the installation or the removal. In the event a  
19 grantee fails to perform such restoration, the authorized party has the right to do so at the sole  
20 expense of the grantee. Demand for payment for such restoration must be submitted by the  
21 authorized party in writing to the grantee.

22  
23  
24 C. Provision of cable services may not be conditioned on any right of entry agreement that  
25 requires an exclusive, long-term service commitment. However, the preceding sentence does not  
26

1 affect the grantee's right to furnish additional consideration in exchange for a right of entry  
2 agreement.

3 Section 24. Section 21.60.200 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance  
4 105427, is amended as follows:

5 ~~((21.60.200 City rights not affected.~~

6 ~~The termination and forfeiture of any franchise shall in no way affect any other rights of the City~~  
7 ~~under the franchise or any provision of law.))~~

9 **21.60.200 Compliance with chapter, franchise and other laws**

10 Construction, maintenance, and operation of the grantee's system, including subscriber  
11 connections, shall be in accordance with the provisions of this Chapter 21.60, the grantee's  
12 franchise agreement with the City, and, unless otherwise provided in the franchise, the provisions  
13 of all other applicable codes, ordinances, rules, regulations, and specifications of the City  
14 currently existing or later enacted, including, but not limited to, those concerning electrical work  
15 and street use excavation, removal and relocation of property, and other street work.

17 Section 25. Section 21.60.210 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance  
18 121148, is amended as follows:

19 ~~((21.60.210 Cable districts and access areas.~~

20 ~~A. Cable district boundaries and designations shall be as depicted on Exhibit "1" "CABLE~~  
21 ~~DISTRICTS" attached to Ordinance 121148.~~

22 ~~B. Access districts shall be as depicted on Exhibit "B" "ACCESS AREAS" attached to~~  
23 ~~Ordinance 105427.))~~

24 **21.60.210 Compliance with state and federal laws and regulations**

1           This Chapter 21.60 and any franchise granted pursuant to it shall at all times be  
2 interpreted as to require the grantee to comply with all applicable state and federal laws,  
3 including FCC rules and regulations relating to the provision of cable services. Such  
4 interpretation of this Chapter 21.60 does not diminish, impair, alter, or affect any contractual  
5 benefit to the City or grantee or any contractual obligation of the grantee under any franchise  
6 issued under this Chapter 21.60.

7  
8           Section 26. Section 21.60.220 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance  
9 120138, is amended as follows:

10 ~~((21.60.220 Applications for franchise.~~

11 ~~Each application for the granting or renewal of a franchise to construct, operate or maintain any~~  
12 ~~cable communications system in this City shall be filed with the Office of Cable~~

13 ~~Communications, be accompanied by a processing fee in the amount of Twenty Thousand~~  
14 ~~Dollars (\$20,000) and shall also contain or be accompanied by the following:~~

15 ~~A. The name, address and telephone number of the applicant;~~

16 ~~B. A detailed statement of the corporate or other business entity organization of the applicant,~~  
17 ~~including but not limited to, the following and to whatever extent may reasonably be required by~~  
18 ~~the Office of Cable Communications:~~

19 ~~1. The names, residence and business addresses of all officers and directors of the applicant,~~

20 ~~2. The names and addresses of all persons having, controlling, or being entitled to have or~~  
21 ~~control, five (5) percent or more of the ownership of the applicant, either directly or indirectly,~~  
22 ~~and the respective ownership share of each such person,~~

1 ~~3. A detailed description of all previous experience of the applicant or the owners of the~~  
2 ~~applicant in providing cable communications and in related or similar fields,~~

3 ~~4. A detailed and complete recent financial statement prepared by or under the supervision of~~  
4 ~~certified public accountants, and of any corporation owning a majority or more of the voting~~  
5 ~~stock of the applicant,~~

6 ~~5. A detailed financial plan showing the financial resources required to construct and operate the~~  
7 ~~proposed system together with satisfactory evidence of the availability to applicant of funding~~  
8 ~~requirements in excess of applicant's own cash resources not otherwise committed;~~

9 ~~C. A detailed statement of the proposed plan of operation of the applicant, which shall include:~~

10 ~~1. A statement of the cable district proposed to be served and a proposed time schedule, not in~~  
11 ~~conflict with this chapter, for installation in each neighborhood or portion of the district of all~~  
12 ~~equipment necessary to complete energization throughout the entire area to be served,~~

13 ~~2. A statement or schedule setting forth all proposed classifications of rates and charges to be~~  
14 ~~made against subscribers and all rates and charges as to each of the classifications including~~  
15 ~~installation charges and service charges and which shall remain in effect for not less than twelve~~  
16 ~~(12) months following the grant of the franchise; provided grantee by this requirement shall not~~  
17 ~~be precluded from initiating an application for a rate revision prior to the twelfth month, to be~~  
18 ~~effective thereafter if allowed,~~

19 ~~3. A detailed, informative and referenced statement describing the actual equipment and~~  
20 ~~operational standards proposed by the applicant, including when applicable administrative and~~  
21 ~~technical procedures for interconnection of access channels and for safeguarding the privacy of~~  
22 ~~return signals. In no event shall the operational and performance standards be less than those~~



1 contained in Title 47, Subpart K (Section 76.601 et seq.) Rules and Regulations, Federal  
2 Communications Commission adopted February 2, 1972, and as amended,

3 4. A copy of any agreement proposed to be entered into between the applicant and any  
4 subscriber;

5 5. A statement setting forth the substance of, and names of persons party to, all agreements  
6 existing or proposed between the applicant and any other person which materially relate to or  
7 depend upon the granting of the franchise;

8 D. A copy of any agreement with respect to the franchise area existing between the applicant and  
9 any public utility providing for the use of any facilities of the public utility; and

10 E. Any other reasonable information requested by the Office of Cable Communications or the  
11 Council, or required by any provision of any other ordinance of the City or its Charter, or  
12 deemed pertinent by the applicant.)  
13

14  
15 **21.60.220 Obligation to comply promptly**

16 Time is of the essence with respect to a grantee's obligations in any franchise granted  
17 under this Chapter 21.60. The grantee shall not be relieved of its obligation to comply promptly  
18 with any of the provisions of this Chapter 21.60 or its franchise with the City by any failure of  
19 the City to enforce prompt compliance.  
20

21 Section 27. Section 21.60.230 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance  
22 120181 and that currently reads as follows, is repealed:

23 **~~((21.60.230 When applications accepted—Notification.~~**

24 A. For a period of one hundred eighty (180) days immediately preceding the expiration date of a  
25 franchise for any given cable district the Office of Cable Communications will accept for filing  
26

1 ~~applications for franchises for such cable district. At least ten (10) days but not more than thirty~~  
2 ~~(30) days in advance of the aforementioned date on which applications will first be accepted, the~~  
3 ~~Office of Cable Communications shall give written notice thereof to each person who is then the~~  
4 ~~holder of an existing CATV cable franchise from the City and to any person who has requested~~  
5 ~~such notice in writing, and by publication of notice for one (1) day in a newspaper of general~~  
6 ~~circulation throughout the City, which published notice shall include a copy of the table of~~  
7 ~~contents of this chapter.~~

8  
9 ~~B. In the event that the Office of Cable Communications, upon the advice and recommendation~~  
10 ~~of the Advisory Board, determines that an area not a part of a cable district is to be designated a~~  
11 ~~cable district and is to be served, the Chief Technology Officer shall publish notice in a~~  
12 ~~newspaper of general circulation throughout the City that applications for a franchise to serve~~  
13 ~~such area will be received until a designated date which date shall be not less than ninety (90)~~  
14 ~~days nor more than one hundred eighty (180) days after publication of such notice. Such~~  
15 ~~published notice shall contain a copy of the table of contents of this chapter.))~~

16  
17 Section 28. Section 21.60.240 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance  
18 107025, is amended as follows:

19  
20 **~~((21.60.240 Report and recommendation on application.~~**

21 ~~Upon receipt of any application for franchise, the Office of Cable Communications shall prepare~~  
22 ~~a written analysis or report upon such application and thereafter in consultation with the~~  
23 ~~Advisory Board make recommendations respecting such application. Any such analysis or~~  
24 ~~reports and recommendations shall be completed and filed with the Council within ninety (90)~~  
25 ~~days following the close of the period for filing of the application.))~~

1 **21.60.240 No recourse against City for loss or expense**

2 A grantee has no recourse against the City for any loss, cost, expense, or damage arising  
3 out of any provision or requirement of this Chapter 21.60 or for any franchise issued under this  
4 Chapter 21.60 or because of its enforcement.

5 Section 29. Section 21.60.250 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance  
6 107025, is amended as follows:

7 ~~((**21.60.250 Public hearing on application.**~~

8 ~~Upon receipt of the reports or analysis and recommendations of the Office of Cable~~  
9 ~~Communications, the Council shall promptly schedule a public hearing upon the application~~  
10 ~~reported, and shall cause the City Clerk to publish notice thereof in at least two (2) newspapers~~  
11 ~~of general circulation within the City at least once a week for each of the two (2) weeks~~  
12 ~~preceding such hearing, provided, however, that no two (2) or more applications shall be~~  
13 ~~considered at any one (1) hearing except by consent of the applicants and no applications shall be~~  
14 ~~considered at any one (1) hearing which do not relate to the same cable district. The notice shall~~  
15 ~~state the name of each proposed grantee for each cable district and the place where applications~~  
16 ~~and relevant material are available to the public, and shall set forth the day, hour and place when~~  
17 ~~and where any interested persons may file written comments pertaining thereto and/or appear~~  
18 ~~before the Council and be heard.))~~

19 **21.60.250 Rights reserved in the City**

20 There is reserved in the City every right and power that is required to be reserved or  
21 provided by any law, and a grantee by its acceptance of a franchise agrees to be bound by the

1 franchise and to comply with any action or requirements of the City in its exercise of such rights  
2 or powers.

3 Section 30. Section 21.60.260 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance  
4 107025, is amended as follows:

5 ~~((21.60.260 Considerations at public hearing.~~

6 ~~At the hearing so scheduled or any adjournments thereof, all citizens and other interested parties~~  
7 ~~shall have an opportunity to express their views orally or in writing to the Council, and the~~  
8 ~~Council shall consider all the views expressed at the public hearing in determining its action~~  
9 ~~upon each franchise application. Written comments if responsive to written or oral statements of~~  
10 ~~any person filed or made at the hearing, but not otherwise, shall be received up to the conclusion~~  
11 ~~of the fifth business day following the conclusion of the hearing, and be considered by the~~  
12 ~~Council. The Council shall also give due consideration to the quality of the service proposed; the~~  
13 ~~experience, character, background, and financial responsibility of each applicant and its~~  
14 ~~management and owners; the technical and performance quality of equipment; the program~~  
15 ~~proposed for construction; and the applicant's ability to meet construction and physical~~  
16 ~~requirements and to abide by the terms and requirements of the franchise generally. The Council~~  
17 ~~shall also give weight to local ownership and to ownership representing minorities within the~~  
18 ~~larger public.))~~

22 **21.60.260 Affirmative efforts in employment and nondiscrimination in benefits**

23 Every franchise granted under this Chapter 21.60 shall contain provisions that ensure  
24 compliance with all requirements of Chapter 20.42 and Chapter 20.45, as the same may be

1 amended, including, but not limited to, the affirmative efforts requirements in Section 20.42.050  
2 and the prohibition on discrimination in providing benefits in Section 20.45.020.

3 Section 31. Section 21.60.270 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance  
4 107025, is amended as follows:

5 ~~((21.60.270 Council determinations—Rejection or further consideration of application.~~

6 ~~If the Council should determine to reject any application, such determination shall be final and~~  
7 ~~the application shall be deemed rejected. If the Council shall determine further to consider an~~  
8 ~~application, then:~~

9  
10 A. ~~(Reserved subsection.)~~

11 ~~B. The reasonableness of the subscriber rates and charges proposed by the applicant shall be~~  
12 ~~inquired into at a hearing before a Hearing Examiner pursuant to the Administrative Code of the~~  
13 ~~City (Ordinance 102228) and Sections 21.60.300 through 21.60.320. The Hearing Examiner~~  
14 ~~shall make a determination concerning the reasonableness of the proposed rates and charges and~~  
15 ~~forward such determination to the City Council. In the event that the Hearing Examiner~~  
16 ~~determines that an independent audit of applicant's accounts and records by certified public~~  
17 ~~accountants is essential to a determination of the fairness of applicant's proposed rates and~~  
18 ~~charges he may direct applicants to cooperate in such respect. If an applicant is already operating~~  
19 ~~under an existing franchise and does not propose to increase its rates and charges, no such~~  
20 ~~hearing shall be required.~~

21  
22  
23 ~~C. If the Council shall determine that a franchise be granted to the applicant upon the terms~~  
24 ~~proposed by the applicant with respect to the applicant's construction program and subscriber~~  
25

1 ~~rates and charges or upon different terms, such determination shall be expressed in the ordinance~~  
2 ~~granting a franchise to the applicant.~~

3 ~~D. No bill granting a franchise shall be finally passed within thirty (30) days after its~~  
4 ~~introduction, nor until it has been published in the official newspaper of the City at the expense~~  
5 ~~of the applicant for ten (10) consecutive press days. Any ordinance granting a franchise shall be~~  
6 ~~published once in the official newspaper of the City at the expense of the applicant therefor~~  
7 ~~within three (3) days after the same shall have become law.))~~

9 **21.60.270 Force majeure**

10 If a grantee is prevented or delayed in the performance of any of its obligations under this  
11 Chapter 21.60 by reason of acts of God, floods, fire, hurricanes, tornadoes, earthquakes, or other  
12 unavoidable casualties, insurrection, war, riot, vandalism, strikes, or sabotage, to the extent such  
13 event prevents performance by the grantee and such event is beyond grantee's control, the  
14 grantee shall have a reasonable time under the circumstances to perform such obligation under  
15 this Chapter 21.60, or to get a substitute for such obligation to the satisfaction of the City. If  
16 grantee claims a force majeure event, grantee shall give prompt written notice of the same to the  
17 City and shall set forth its plan of action to meet the obligations of this Chapter 21.60 once the  
18 force majeure event no longer prevents the grantee's performance.

21 Section 32. Section 21.60.280 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance  
22 107025, is amended as follows:

23 **~~((21.60.280 Procedure for grant or renewal of franchise.~~**

24 ~~The procedure for granting any franchise other than those contemplated by Section 21.60.230~~  
25 ~~and for renewing any franchise granted pursuant to this chapter shall be as follows:~~

1 ~~A. Upon receipt of any application for the granting or renewal of a franchise, the Office of Cable~~  
2 ~~Communications shall prepare a written analysis or report upon such application and thereafter~~  
3 ~~in consultation with the Advisory Board, make recommendations respecting such application and~~  
4 ~~cause the same to be completed and, together with the application, filed with the Council within~~  
5 ~~ninety (90) days.~~

6 ~~B. On receipt of such report or analysis and recommendation, the Council shall schedule a public~~  
7 ~~hearing and cause notice thereof to be published at least once a week for each of two (2) weeks~~  
8 ~~preceding the hearing in each of the two (2) newspapers of general circulation within the City,~~  
9 ~~which notice shall contain the same information described in Section 21.60.250. In addition, if~~  
10 ~~the application is for renewal of a franchise for a cable district then served by a local access~~  
11 ~~channel, the applicant shall broadcast notice of the hearing over all such channels at least once~~  
12 ~~each working day between the hours of nine (9:00) a.m. and eleven (11:00) p.m. during the two~~  
13 ~~(2) weeks immediately preceding the hearing.~~

14 ~~C. The procedures followed at and subsequent to the hearing shall be the same as those described~~  
15 ~~in Sections 21.60.260 and 21.60.270.)~~

16 **21.60.280 Effective date**

17 Nothing in this Chapter 21.60 shall abridge, impair, alter, modify, or in any way affect  
18 any right, privilege, or immunity of either the grantee or the City conferred by or arising under  
19 any cable franchise granted before and remaining in effect on the effective date of the ordinance  
20 introduced as C.B. 118347. Any franchise renewed pursuant to Section 21.60.100 after the  
21 effective date of the ordinance introduced as C.B. 118347 shall be subject to the terms of Chapter  
22 21.60 as amended.

1 Section 33. Section 21.60.290 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance  
2 120138 and that currently reads as follows, is repealed:

3 ~~((21.60.290 Franchise grant for entire cable district or entire City—Exception.~~

4 ~~No grantee shall be awarded a franchise for less than an entire cable district. A grantee shall~~  
5 ~~provide cable service in the entire franchise district(s) consistent with the grant of the franchise,~~  
6 ~~unless:~~

7  
8 ~~A. The provider of cable service is operating under the provisions of SMC Section 21.60.700 in~~  
9 ~~lieu of a franchise;~~

10 ~~B. The grantee has not yet completed the construction of the physical plant to provide service~~  
11 ~~throughout the entire franchise area, provided the grantee is in compliance with the build-out~~  
12 ~~requirements of the franchise;~~

13  
14 ~~C. The grantee has received an administrative waiver based on a determination that effective~~  
15 ~~competition is available in the area of the waiver. For the purpose of granting an administrative~~  
16 ~~waiver, the presence of three (3) cable services franchise grantees providing services throughout~~  
17 ~~the area of the waiver shall constitute effective competition. When a cable district is served by~~  
18 ~~more than one (1) system, the systems shall be interconnected at the expense of the grantee~~  
19 ~~operating under a franchise initially granted pursuant to this chapter in such a way as to provide~~  
20 ~~common access channels throughout the cable district.))~~

21  
22 Section 34. Section 21.60.295 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance  
23 116917 and that currently reads as follows, is repealed:

24 ~~((21.60.295 Regulation of cable television rates and charges.~~



1 ~~A. The Office of Cable Communications shall regulate the rates charged by local cable television~~  
2 ~~franchises in conformance with, and to the extent permitted by the Cable Television Consumer~~  
3 ~~Protection and Competition Act of 1992, Pub. L. No. 102-385, 106 Stat. 1460, 47 U.S.C. Section~~  
4 ~~521 et seq. (1992), and implementing regulations of the Federal Communications Commission.~~

5 ~~B. The Office of Cable Communications is authorized to take all steps necessary to become~~  
6 ~~certified by the Federal Communications Commission to regulate cable television rates.~~

7 ~~C. The Office of Cable Communications shall adopt such rules and regulations as necessary to~~  
8 ~~regulate cable television rates.))~~

9  
10 Section 35. Section 21.60.300 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance  
11 116917 and that currently reads as follows, is repealed:

12 ~~((21.60.300 Subscriber rates and charges—Approval required.~~

13 ~~A. No grantee shall impose or be permitted to impose upon subscribers or users rates or charges~~  
14 ~~for installation or for basic services, approved by the Federal Communications Commission~~  
15 ~~(FCC) and the City, until it has first been determined in the manner provided in this section and~~  
16 ~~Section 21.60.295. The determination of the Hearing Examiner in such respect shall be made in~~  
17 ~~accordance with the Administrative Code of the City (Seattle Municipal Code Chapter 3.02) and~~  
18 ~~shall constitute a final order or decision; provided, however, that in connection with the original~~  
19 ~~grant of a franchise pursuant to this chapter the reasonableness of rates or charges shall be~~  
20 ~~determined according to Sections 21.60.230 through 21.60.290~~

21 ~~B. Any applicant for the granting or renewal of a franchise (except an applicant who already~~  
22 ~~provides cable service to all or part of the cable district for which the franchise or renewal is~~  
23 ~~sought and who proposes no increase in rates and charges for installation and basic services) and~~  
24  
25  
26

1 ~~any grantee proposing any increase in rates and charges for installation or basic services shall~~  
2 ~~first file with the Office of Cable Communications a schedule of the proposed increased rates~~  
3 ~~and charges together with supporting financial data presented in a manner susceptible of~~  
4 ~~meaningful comparison among all grantees, as prescribed by rules adopted pursuant to Section~~  
5 ~~21.60.650. Such supporting data shall include a statement covering the period since the last~~  
6 ~~previous rate adjustment showing clearly what total proceeds were derived from the system in~~  
7 ~~terms of ratepayers payments and users charges and the proportion of those proceeds devoted to~~  
8 ~~operation and maintenance of the system and construction of capital plant in the cable district.~~  
9 ~~The Office of Cable Communications shall examine and investigate the material submitted by~~  
10 ~~the applicant or grantee and, in consultation with the Advisory Board, make a recommendation~~  
11 ~~to the Council with respect thereto within thirty (30) days after receipt.)~~

12  
13  
14 Section 36. Section 21.60.310 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance  
15 105427 and that currently reads as follows, is repealed:

16 ~~**((21.60.310 Subscriber rates and charges—Determination of Hearing Examiner.**~~

17 ~~The application of the applicant or grantee and the report of the Office of Cable Communications~~  
18 ~~and recommendations of the Advisory Board and the Office of Cable Communications shall be~~  
19 ~~submitted to a Hearing Examiner, and the reasonableness of the proposed rates and charges shall~~  
20 ~~be determined after notice and a hearing by a Hearing Examiner pursuant to the Administrative~~  
21 ~~Code of the City. Notice of the hearing shall briefly describe the proposed rates and charges and~~  
22 ~~the recommendation of the Office of Cable Communications with respect thereto and shall state~~  
23 ~~the place where the application and relevant facts are available to the public, the time and place~~  
24 ~~of the hearing, and the date by which written comments must be submitted. Notice of the hearing~~

1 ~~will be sufficient if published at least once a week during each of the two (2) weeks preceding~~  
2 ~~the hearing in a newspaper of general circulation within the City and in one (1) or as many more~~  
3 ~~community newspapers within the cable district or franchise areas, as may be necessary to cover~~  
4 ~~the entire district and if broadcast over the local access channels of the applicant or grantee (if~~  
5 ~~any) in the cable district or districts affected at least once each working day between the hours of~~  
6 ~~nine (9:00) a.m. and eleven (11:00) p.m. during the two (2) weeks immediately preceding the~~  
7 ~~hearing.))~~

8  
9 Section 37. Section 21.60.320 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance  
10 116917 and that currently reads as follows, is repealed:

11 ~~((21.60.320 Subscriber rates and charges—Purpose of hearing.~~

12 ~~The purpose of the hearing before a Hearing Examiner shall be to determine whether the rates~~  
13 ~~and charges proposed by the applicant or grantee are not in excess of the rates permitted by FCC~~  
14 ~~rate regulations as now or hereafter amended and franchise requirements, if any. In the event that~~  
15 ~~the Hearing Examiner determines that an independent audit of applicant's accounts and records~~  
16 ~~by certified public accountants is necessary to the above determination, he/she may direct~~  
17 ~~applicants to cooperate in such respect, and failure to consent to such audit without just cause~~  
18 ~~shall be a ground for rejection of the applicant's application. The applicant or grantee shall have~~  
19 ~~the burden of persuasion.))~~

20  
21  
22 Section 38. Section 21.60.330 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance  
23 120181 and that currently reads as follows, is repealed:

24 ~~((21.60.330 Bonds.~~

1 ~~Upon being granted a franchise and upon the filing of the acceptance required under SMC~~  
2 ~~Section 21.60.370, a grantee shall deliver to the City Clerk for filing, and thereafter maintain~~  
3 ~~continuously in effect a good and sufficient bond in the penal sum of One Hundred Thousand~~  
4 ~~Dollars (\$100,000), executed by a surety company authorized and qualified to do business in the~~  
5 ~~state as a surety or by other sureties acceptable to the Office of Cable Communications and in a~~  
6 ~~form approved by the City Attorney, which bond shall stipulate that grantee shall strictly comply~~  
7 ~~with each and every condition and covenant of its franchise; provided, that whenever in the~~  
8 ~~judgment of the Chief Technology Officer any bond or bonds filed by a grantee pursuant to the~~  
9 ~~provisions of this section shall be deemed insufficient to satisfy the conditions of the bond, the~~  
10 ~~grantee shall upon demand furnish a new or additional bond in such amount as may be specified~~  
11 ~~by the Chief Technology Officer and with such sureties as are acceptable to the Chief~~  
12 ~~Technology Officer, and maintain such new or additional bond continuously in effect; and~~  
13 ~~provided further that the bond shall include the obligation of the surety to guarantee payment to~~  
14 ~~the City of the penalty provided for in SMC Section 21.60.360 should such penalty become~~  
15 ~~applicable.))~~

18 Section 39. Section 21.60.340 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance  
19 107614 and that currently reads as follows, is repealed:

21 ~~((**21.60.340 Indemnity.**~~

22 ~~By acceptance of a franchise granted pursuant to this chapter and the rights and privileges~~  
23 ~~thereby granted, grantee does covenant and agree with the City for itself, its successors and~~  
24 ~~assigns, to at all times protect and save harmless the City from all claims, actions, suits, liability,~~  
25 ~~loss, cost, expenses or damages of every kind or description which may accrue to or be suffered~~

1 by any person or persons or property, and to appear and defend at its own cost and expense any  
2 action instituted or begun against the City for damages by reason of the construction,  
3 reconstruction, readjustment, repair, maintenance, operation or use of the streets of the City, or  
4 any act(s) or omission(s) of grantee, its successors or assigns, exercising any privilege conferred  
5 by this chapter or by such franchise, and in case judgment shall be rendered against the City in  
6 any such suit or action, the grantee shall fully satisfy such judgment within ninety (90) days after  
7 such action or suit shall have been finally determined if determined adversely to the City. Such  
8 indemnity shall include, but not be limited to, any liability as may arise or occur, or be alleged to  
9 arise or occur, from concurrent, contributing or joint acts or omissions of grantee and the City,  
10 but not attributable to the sole negligence of the City.))

12 Section 40. Section 21.60.350 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance  
13 116368 and that currently reads as follows, is repealed:

14 ((**21.60.350 Insurance.**

15  
16 So long as grantee shall possess any right or privilege granted pursuant to this chapter or  
17 franchise, and before the commencement of any work under this agreement, the grantee shall  
18 deliver to the Office of Cable Communications for filing with the City Clerk a policy of  
19 insurance (or a copy thereof) showing that it has procured and is maintaining at all times a policy  
20 of public liability insurance, in a form approved by the City Attorney, naming the City as an  
21 insured, protecting and holding the City harmless from any and all damages of any kind  
22 whatsoever which may arise in connection with the services or work to be performed under this  
23 chapter, whether or not such damages are alleged to arise or result from acts or omissions which  
24 are the sole negligence of the City, its officers, employees and/or agents or the combined  
25  
26

1 negligence of the City and others, in at least the principal amount of One Million Dollars  
2 (\$1,000,000) for bodily injury or death to any one (1) person or for bodily injury or death to any  
3 number of persons in any one (1) incident, and/or One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000) for all  
4 property damage occurring during any one (1) incident, and/or One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000)  
5 for deprivation of civil rights and civil liberties, defamation of character, libel, slander, invasion  
6 of contractual rights, inverse condemnation, or similar or other causes of action, provided the  
7 Director of Cable Communications may increase the minimum policy limits and coverage from  
8 time to time as the Director deems appropriate to adequately protect the City and the public. The  
9 policy shall provide for at least thirty (30) days' notice to the Director of Cable Communications  
10 of any change, cancellation or lapse thereof, and that "This policy is issued and intended to  
11 comply with the conditions and requirements of Section 21.60.350 of the Seattle Municipal  
12 Code.")

13  
14  
15 Section 41. Section 21.60.360 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance  
16 120181 and that currently reads as follows, is repealed:

17 ~~((21.60.360 Penalties.~~

18 It is the intent of this chapter that the citizens of Seattle who have contracted with a cable  
19 television franchise grantee for basic cable services be provided uninterrupted service and, if any  
20 grantee abandons or wilfully ceases to serve any cable district or portion thereof, the grantee,  
21 after a hearing before the Chief Technology Officer, upon a determination and findings of such  
22 abandonment or wilful cessation of service shall be subject to a penalty of not less than Fifty  
23 Dollars (\$50) nor more than One Hundred Dollars (\$100), in the discretion of the Director, for  
24 each day such wilful cessation of service or abandonment continues, but not to exceed a total  
25  
26

1 ~~sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000). Operation by a temporary substitute operator by~~  
2 ~~permission of the grantee and the City shall stay the penalty provision of this section for so long~~  
3 ~~as the system is thereby maintained in operation.))~~

4 Section 42. Section 21.60.370 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance  
5 107614 and that currently reads as follows, is repealed:

6 ~~((**21.60.370 Acceptance of franchise.**~~

7 ~~A. No franchise granted under this chapter shall become effective for any purpose unless and~~  
8 ~~until an acceptance in writing thereof shall have been filed with the City Clerk. Such written~~  
9 ~~acceptance, which shall be in form and substance approved by the City Attorney, shall also be~~  
10 ~~and operate as an acceptance of each and every term and condition and limitation contained in~~  
11 ~~this chapter or in such franchise, or otherwise specified as provided in this section.~~

12 ~~B. The written acceptance shall be filed by the grantee not later than thirty (30) days following~~  
13 ~~the effective date of the ordinance granting such franchise.~~

14 ~~C. In default of the filing of such written acceptance as required in this section, the grantee shall~~  
15 ~~be deemed to have rejected and repudiated the franchise and the City may invite and thereafter~~  
16 ~~receive applications from persons desiring to serve the subject cable district.~~

17 ~~D. In any case, all rights, remedies and redress which may or shall be available to the City under~~  
18 ~~this chapter, shall at all times be available to the City and shall be preserved and maintained and~~  
19 ~~shall continuously exist in and to the City and shall not be in any manner or means modified or~~  
20 ~~abridged, altered, restricted or impaired by reason of this chapter or otherwise.~~

1 ~~E. By acceptance of a franchise granted pursuant to this chapter any and all grantees specifically~~  
2 ~~acknowledge that nothing in this chapter contained or in any franchise granted pursuant thereto~~  
3 ~~constitutes an abrogation by the City of its police powers in any respect whatsoever.~~

4 ~~F. If for the purpose of documenting his compliance with federal regulations for federal~~  
5 ~~authorities, any person operating a CATV system within any cable district or districts pursuant to~~  
6 ~~a franchise outstanding on the effective date of the ordinance codified in this chapter desires to~~  
7 ~~accomplish such documentation by electing to accept the terms and conditions of this chapter he~~  
8 ~~may do so by filing with the Office of Cable Communications a written acceptance of the terms~~  
9 ~~and conditions of such ordinance which shall be in form and substance approved by the City~~  
10 ~~Attorney and shall specify the cable district or districts to which the acceptance relates. Such an~~  
11 ~~acceptance shall have the effect of conforming such outstanding franchise to this chapter for the~~  
12 ~~district or districts specified except that such outstanding franchise shall terminate on its original~~  
13 ~~expiration date.))~~

14  
15  
16 Section 43. Section 21.60.380 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance  
17 120181 and that currently reads as follows, is repealed:

18 ~~((21.60.380 Construction—Approval of plan—Rate or extension of service.~~

19 ~~The construction of new cable facilities or the extension of existing cable facilities by a grantee~~  
20 ~~shall be done in accordance with a plan or design first submitted to and approved by the Chief~~  
21 ~~Technology Officer with respect to the requirements of this chapter, and then submitted to and~~  
22 ~~approved by the Director of Transportation with respect to the requirements of SMC Title 15.~~

23 ~~The grantee shall at all times comply with this chapter and with SMC Title 15 (commonly called~~  
24 ~~the Street Use Ordinance) as the same now reads or is hereafter amended, except that if this~~  
25  
26



chapter and SMC Title 15 are in any respect inconsistent the provisions of the latter shall control.

To the end, unless otherwise specified in the grant of franchise, an entire cable district shall be served within seven (7) years from the date of the awarding of the franchise, and the franchise shall specify milestones for the extension of cable service throughout the district for each year; provided, however, that the legislative authority may by ordinance and pursuant to a specific application by the grantee, extend the time for a grantee's performance to a date certain after receiving findings and a recommendation from the Hearing Examiner and after a hearing by the Hearing Examiner upon the facts as to whether the failure to extend the time would cause the grantee to suffer an unreasonable rate of return in its investment in the cable district, or as to whether delay is caused by strikes, acts of God, or other unforeseen circumstances beyond the control of the grantee.))

Section 44. Section 21.60.390 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance 120138 and that currently reads as follows, is repealed:

~~**(21.60.390 Erection of poles and wires—Undergrounding.**~~

~~All poles, cables, wires, antennae, conduits or appurtenances shall be constructed and erected in a neat, workmanlike manner and shall be of such height and occupy such position in compliance with the provisions of the pole attachment permit(s) and street use permit(s) authorizing its installation. Whenever it is practicable to make use of poles already in the streets of the City, the grantee shall make use of such poles as provided in SMC Chapter 15.32, provided that in any district in which telephone, telegraph and electric power wires and cables have been placed underground, the grantee shall not be permitted to erect poles or to run or suspend wires, cables or other conductors thereon but shall lay such wires, cables or conductors underground in such~~

1 manner as is required by the City, and if, prior to the passage of any ordinance creating a local  
2 improvement district or utility local improvement district which involves placing overhead  
3 utilities underground grantee shall have erected poles and suspended wires, cables and other  
4 conductors thereon, grantee shall participate in such underground project and shall remove poles,  
5 cables and wires from the surface of the streets within such district and shall place the same  
6 underground in conformity with the requirements of the Director of Transportation.))

7  
8 Section 45. Section 21.60.400 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance  
9 107614 and that currently reads as follows, is repealed:

10 ~~((21.60.400 Undergrounding requirements.~~

11 ~~If in any part of the cable district for which the grantee has been awarded a franchise and where  
12 no cable facilities have been installed, the City or a local improvement district proposes to place  
13 telephone, telegraph and electric power wires and cables underground, or to require the same,  
14 grantee may place facilities in the underground project, but if grantee does not do so and  
15 subsequently enters the area to serve the same, grantee shall place its facilities underground. In  
16 areas where all other utilities have their facilities underground the grantee shall underground its  
17 facilities within a reasonable period of time, as directed by the City Council.))~~

18  
19  
20 Section 46. Section 21.60.440 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance  
21 107614 and that currently reads as follows, is repealed:

22 ~~((21.60.440 Compliance with chapter.~~

23 ~~Construction, maintenance and operation of grantee's system, including house connections, shall  
24 be in accordance with the provisions of this chapter and in accordance with the provisions of all  
25 other applicable codes and ordinances, including the Electrical Code (Ordinance 103501), and  
26~~

1 ~~grantee shall comply with all applicable state and federal laws and the rules and regulations of~~  
2 ~~the Federal Communications Commission relating to CATV systems.))~~

3 Section 47. Section 21.60.450 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance  
4 123361 and that currently reads as follows, is repealed:

5 ~~((21.60.450 Connection point.~~

6 ~~Except in areas of the cable district in which, by the terms of the grantee's franchise, no~~  
7 ~~construction is required, the grantee shall, on payment of the installation charge prescribed in~~  
8 ~~accordance with Sections 21.60.300 through 21.60.320, provide a connection, overhead or~~  
9 ~~underground at the discretion of the City Light Department, to any point located not more than~~  
10 ~~300 feet from grantee's nearest distribution cable, and shall not accept payment for an installation~~  
11 ~~charge unless there is a distribution cable within 300 feet of the subscriber's property or a~~  
12 ~~specific written agreement has been entered into with the subscriber regarding the cost of a~~  
13 ~~connection over a distance greater than 300 feet.))~~

14  
15  
16 Section 48. Section 21.60.460 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance  
17 107614 and that currently reads as follows, is repealed:

18 ~~((21.60.460 Council may require construction in previously excluded area.~~

19 ~~Notwithstanding any limitation to the contrary contained in grantee's franchise, the Council by~~  
20 ~~ordinance may require grantee to construct cable facilities in any part of the cable district where~~  
21 ~~by the terms of the franchise no such construction was originally required, if the Council~~  
22 ~~determines on recommendation of the Office of Cable Communications or on petition by~~  
23 ~~residents of the excluded area that because of changed economic circumstances since the~~  
24 ~~granting of the franchise it has become feasible to require construction in such area.))~~

1 Section 49. Section 21.60.470 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance  
2 107614 and that currently reads as follows, is repealed:

3 ~~((21.60.470 Permission from property owner.~~

4 ~~It shall be grantee's sole responsibility when cable passes over or under private or publicly  
5 owned property to obtain all necessary permission from the owner thereof.))~~

6 Section 50. Section 21.60.480 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance  
7 105427 and that currently reads as follows, is repealed:

8 ~~((21.60.480 Consumer protection.~~

9 ~~Subscribers and users in each cable district shall have the protection described in this section in  
10 addition to all other rights conferred in this chapter. A copy of this section shall be furnished by  
11 the grantee, at grantee's expense, to each new subscriber.~~

12 ~~A. The Office of Cable Communications shall, in addition to receiving and investigating  
13 subscriber complaints, furnish timely information to the public regarding proceedings with  
14 respect to proposals to change the terms of this chapter or other City ordinances relating to cable  
15 communications, the terms of any franchise, subscriber rates and charges in any cable district, or  
16 relating to renewal or termination of any franchise or the transfer of control of any grantee.~~

17 ~~B. Each grantee shall furnish to the Office of Cable Communications, and the Office of Cable  
18 Communications shall compile and maintain for public inspection during regular business hours,  
19 copies of:~~

20 ~~1. All applications and other communications submitted by franchise applicants or grantees to  
21 the City, the Federal Communications System or any other federal, state, or local regulatory  
22 body having jurisdiction in respect of cable communications within this City;~~

1 ~~2. Current information on ownership and management of the grantee;~~

2 ~~3. Current information on forms of subscriber agreements used by the grantee; complaint~~  
3 ~~procedures followed by the grantee; and nonbasic services offered by the grantee and the rates~~  
4 ~~and charges therefor; and~~

5 ~~4. Records of all requests for use of public access channels and leased channel time and the~~  
6 ~~disposition of such requests, and records of all signals and programs carried (other than radio and~~  
7 ~~television broadcast signals).~~

8 ~~C. The Office of Cable Communications shall also compile and maintain for public inspection~~  
9 ~~during regular business hours copies of:~~

10 ~~1. All federal, state, and local laws and regulations applicable to cable communications within~~  
11 ~~this City;~~

12 ~~2. Records of all complaints filed with the Office of Cable Communications and the disposition~~  
13 ~~thereof; and~~

14 ~~3. Policy statements and administrative and staff operating procedures of the Office of Cable~~  
15 ~~Communications and the Advisory Board;~~

16 ~~4. All reports and recommendations to the Council by the Office of Cable Communications or~~  
17 ~~the Advisory Board, or both.~~

18 ~~D. Each grantee shall make available to the public, at such hours of the day and at such places~~  
19 ~~and in such manner as the grantee shall determine with the approval of the Advisory Board,~~  
20 ~~current information pertaining to schedules of rates and charges for basic and nonbasic services,~~  
21 ~~the address and telephone number of the grantee's local office, instructions for operating~~  
22 ~~subscriber terminal equipment, an emergency service telephone number, a description of~~  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28

1 complaint procedures, a description of subscriber rights, and schedules for programs on the local  
2 government, educational, and public access channels (to the extent such program content is  
3 known to the grantee).

4 ~~E. In the operation of a CATV system under a franchise granted pursuant to this chapter, no~~  
5 ~~grantee shall make or grant any undue preference or advantage to any subscriber or user or other~~  
6 ~~person, nor discriminate against any person or group; provided that this subsection shall not be~~  
7 ~~construed to prohibit trade promotions customary in the industry, provided such trade~~  
8 ~~promotions are not otherwise prohibited by law.~~

10 ~~F. If a grantee should for any reason cancel service to a subscriber without cause within a period~~  
11 ~~of thirty six (36) months from the commencement of furnishing service to that subscriber and~~  
12 ~~prior to the termination or expiration of the grantee's franchise, the grantee shall refund to that~~  
13 ~~subscriber a fraction of the installation charge paid by that subscriber, the numerator of which~~  
14 ~~shall be the number of months remaining until completion of the thirty six (36) month period,~~  
15 ~~and the denominator of which shall be thirty six (36).~~

17 ~~G. No grantee shall cause or permit the viewing habits of any subscriber to be monitored without~~  
18 ~~the subscriber's express consent.~~

20 ~~H. Whenever a grantee shall offer a new service or facility, or changes in channel allocation or~~  
21 ~~assignment, the grantee shall give notice thereof to the general public, to the Office of Cable~~  
22 ~~Communications and through the Office of Cable Communications to each educational~~  
23 ~~institution and to the person in charge of each City owned building in the cable district to which~~  
24 ~~the grantee provides basic service without charge pursuant to Sections 21.60.090 through~~  
25

1 ~~21.60.140, whereupon such new service or facility shall be made available to all subscribers if~~  
2 ~~technically practicable, and without discrimination.~~

3 ~~I. A grantee shall give to subscribers advance written notice of any hearing concerning grantee's~~  
4 ~~franchise or any proposed change in subscriber rates and charges, such notice to contain all~~  
5 ~~information contained in the published notice of hearing, and shall prior to such hearing file an~~  
6 ~~affidavit by one (1) of its officers attesting to the fact that such written notice to subscribers has~~  
7 ~~in fact been given.))~~

9 Section 51. Section 21.60.490 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance  
10 105427 and that currently reads as follows, is repealed:

11 ~~((21.60.490 Franchise to be nonexclusive.~~  
12 ~~Every franchise granted pursuant to this chapter shall be nonexclusive.))~~

13  
14 Section 52. Section 21.60.500 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance  
15 105427 and that currently reads as follows, is repealed:

16 ~~((21.60.500 Privileges as stated in chapter.~~  
17 ~~No privilege shall be granted or conferred by any franchise granted under this chapter except~~  
18 ~~those specifically prescribed in this chapter.))~~

19  
20 Section 53. Section 21.60.510 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance  
21 105427 and that currently reads as follows, is repealed:

22 ~~((21.60.510 Subordinate to City and prior lawful occupancy.~~  
23 ~~Any privilege claimed under any such franchise by the grantee in any street or other public~~  
24 ~~property shall be subordinate to the City's police powers and to any prior lawful occupancy of~~  
25 ~~the streets or other public property.))~~

1 Section 54. Section 21.60.520 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance  
2 105427 and that currently reads as follows, is repealed:

3 ~~((21.60.520 Transfers or assignment.~~

4 ~~Any such franchise shall be a privilege to be held in personal trust by the original grantee. It  
5 cannot in any event be sold, transferred, leased, assigned or disposed of in whole or in part,  
6 either by forced or involuntary sale or by voluntary sale, merger, consolidation or otherwise,  
7 without prior approval of the City expressed by ordinance, and then only under such conditions  
8 as may therein be prescribed. An application for any approval required by this section shall be  
9 filed with the Office of Cable Communications and a hearing thereon shall be conducted by the  
10 Council in the same manner as an application for granting or renewal of a franchise as provided  
11 in Section 21.60.280. A recommendation by the City Council for such approval may not be  
12 unreasonably refused; provided, however, the proposed assignee must show financial  
13 responsibility as determined by the Council, must demonstrate to the Council's satisfaction its  
14 ability to comply with the provisions of this chapter and must agree to comply with all provisions  
15 of this chapter; and provided further that in case of a transfer or assignment as security by  
16 mortgage or other hypothecation in whole or in part to secure indebtedness, such consent shall  
17 not be required unless and until the secured party elects to realize upon the collateral. In the  
18 event grantee is a corporation, an assignment of the franchise shall be deemed to occur if there is  
19 an actual change in control or where ownership of more than fifty percent (50%) of the voting  
20 stock of grantee is acquired by a person or group of persons acting in concert, none of whom  
21 already own fifty percent (50%) or more of the voting stock singly or collectively. Any such  
22 transfer or assignment shall be made only by an instrument in writing, such as a bill of sale or  
23  
24  
25  
26~~



1 ~~similar document, a duly executed copy of which shall be filed in the Office of Cable~~  
2 ~~Communications within thirty (30) days after such transfer or assignment.))~~

3 Section 55. Section 21.60.530 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance  
4 105427 and that currently reads as follows, is repealed:

5 ~~((21.60.530 Obligation to comply promptly.~~

6 ~~Time shall be of the essence of any franchise granted under this chapter. The grantee shall not be~~  
7 ~~relieved of its obligation to comply promptly with any of the provisions of this chapter by any~~  
8 ~~failure of the City to enforce prompt compliance.))~~

9  
10 Section 56. Section 21.60.540 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance  
11 105427 and that currently reads as follows, is repealed:

12 ~~((21.60.540 Transfer of powers to other City officers or employees.~~

13 ~~For purposes of the administration of this chapter any right or power conferred or impressed~~  
14 ~~upon any officer, employee, department or board of the City shall be subject to transfer by the~~  
15 ~~City to any other officer, employee, department or board of the City.))~~

16  
17 Section 57. Section 21.60.550 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance  
18 105427 and that currently reads as follows, is repealed.

19 ~~((21.60.550 No recourse against City for loss or expense.~~

20 ~~Grantees shall have no recourse whatsoever against the City for any loss, cost, expense or~~  
21 ~~damage arising out of any provision or requirement of this chapter or for any franchise issued~~  
22 ~~under this chapter or because of its enforcement.))~~

23  
24 Section 58. Section 21.60.560 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance  
25 105427 and that currently reads as follows, is repealed:

1 ~~((21.60.560 Grantee subject to City laws.~~

2 ~~Grantees shall be subject to all requirements of City laws, rules, regulations and specifications~~  
3 ~~heretofore or hereafter enacted or established.))~~

4 Section 59. Section 21.60.570 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance  
5 105427 and that currently reads as follows, is repealed:

6 ~~((21.60.570 Franchise in lieu of other rights and powers of grantee.~~

7 ~~Any franchise granted under this chapter shall be in lieu of any and all other rights, privileges,~~  
8 ~~powers, immunities and authorities owned, possessed, controlled or exercisable by grantee, or~~  
9 ~~any successor to any interest of grantee, of or pertaining to the construction, operation or~~  
10 ~~maintenance of any cable communications system in the cable district to which the franchise~~  
11 ~~relates; and the acceptance of any franchise under this chapter shall, as of the effective date of~~  
12 ~~such franchise, operate between grantee and the City as an abandonment of any and all of such~~  
13 ~~rights, privileges, powers, immunities and authorities within the cable district, to the effect that,~~  
14 ~~as between grantee and the City, all construction, operation and maintenance by the grantee of~~  
15 ~~any cable communication system in such district or districts shall be, and shall be deemed and~~  
16 ~~construed in all instances and respects to be, under and pursuant to the franchise and not under or~~  
17 ~~pursuant to any other right, privilege, power, immunity or authority whatsoever.))~~

18  
19  
20  
21 Section 60. Section 21.60.580 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance  
22 105427 and that currently reads as follows, is repealed:

23 ~~((21.60.580 Grantee not to sell, rent or repair radio or TV sets.~~

24 ~~No grantee nor any major stockholder of a grantee shall directly or indirectly engage within the~~  
25 ~~City in the business of selling, leasing, renting, servicing or repairing radio or television sets or~~  
26

1 ~~other receivers or parts thereof which make use of standard broadcast entertainment signals,~~  
2 ~~provided that nothing therein shall prevent grantee from making modifications to the tuner input~~  
3 ~~circuit of the subscribers' television receivers and the fine tuning of the customers' operating~~  
4 ~~controls only, to insure proper operation under conditions of cable connection at the time of~~  
5 ~~installation or in response to subscriber complaints, or from the selling, servicing or repairing~~  
6 ~~receivers and other equipment belonging to other CATV system operators for use in the conduct~~  
7 ~~of their businesses.))~~  
8

9 Section 61. Section 21.60.590 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance  
10 105427 and that currently reads as follows, is repealed:

11 ~~**((21.60.590 Grantee not to control program content.**~~

12 ~~No grantee may exercise any control over program content on any access channel, except to the~~  
13 ~~extent necessary to prevent the presentation of program material prohibited by rules and~~  
14 ~~regulations of the Federal Communications Commission.))~~  
15

16 Section 62. Section 21.60.600 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance  
17 105427 and that currently reads as follows, is repealed:

18 ~~**((21.60.600 Right of Council or people to repeal or amend grant.**~~

19 ~~Every franchise, right or privilege granted pursuant to this chapter shall be subject to the right of~~  
20 ~~the Council, or the people of the City acting for themselves by the initiative and referendum, at~~  
21 ~~any time, subsequent to the grant, to repeal, amend or modify the grant with due regard to the~~  
22 ~~rights of the grantee and the interest of the public; and to cancel, forfeit and abrogate any such~~  
23 ~~grant if the franchise granted thereby is not operated in full accordance with its provisions, or at~~  
24 ~~all; and at any time during the life of the franchise grant to the right of the people acquire, by~~  
25

1 ~~purchase or condemnation, for the use of the City itself, all the property of the grantee within the~~  
2 ~~limits of the public streets, at a fair and just value, which shall not include any valuation of the~~  
3 ~~franchise itself, which shall thereupon terminate; and every ordinance making such grant shall~~  
4 ~~contain a reservation of these rights of the Council, and of the people of the City acting for~~  
5 ~~themselves by the initiative and referendum, to so repeal, amend or modify said ordinance, and~~  
6 ~~to so cancel, forfeit and abrogate the grant, and to so acquire the property of the grantee in the~~  
7 ~~public streets, as set forth in this section.))~~

9 Section 63. Section 21.60.620 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance  
10 105427 and that currently reads as follows, is repealed:

11 ~~((21.60.620 Rights reserved to City.~~

12 ~~There is reserved in the City every right and power which is required to be herein reserved or~~  
13 ~~provided by any law, and a grantee by its acceptance of a franchise agrees to be bound thereby~~  
14 ~~and to comply with any action or requirements of the City in its exercise of such rights or powers~~  
15 ~~heretofore or hereafter enacted or established.))~~

17 Section 64. Section 21.60.630 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance  
18 105427 and that currently reads as follows, is repealed:

19 ~~((21.60.630 Right to require technical improvements.~~

20 ~~There is reserved in the City the power to amend at intervals of five (5) years or more each and~~  
21 ~~any section of this chapter so as to require additions or improved specifications pertaining to~~  
22 ~~construction, operation, maintenance or otherwise on the part of the grantee, to reflect technical~~  
23 ~~and economic changes occurring during the franchise term and to enable the City and the grantee~~  
24 ~~to take advantage of new developments in the cable communications industry so as to serve the~~  
25

1 ~~public more effectively, efficiently and economically, without the consent of the grantee,~~  
2 ~~provided such amendments do not materially alter the contents of any franchise and provided~~  
3 ~~further that this provision shall not be interpreted as a limitation in any manner whatsoever or at~~  
4 ~~any time whatsoever upon the exercise by the City of its police powers.))~~

5 Section 65. Section 21.60.640 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance  
6 105427 and that currently reads as follows, is repealed:

7 ~~((21.60.640 Use of facilities for emergency purposes.~~

8 ~~A grantee shall upon request of the Mayor make its facilities immediately available to the City~~  
9 ~~for emergency use during the period of any emergency or disaster declared by the Mayor or the~~  
10 ~~Council.))~~

11 Section 66. Section 21.60.650 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance  
12 105427 and that currently reads as follows, is repealed:

13 ~~((21.60.650 Rules and regulations.~~

14 ~~A. Prior to receiving any applications for franchises, the Office of Cable Communications shall~~  
15 ~~adopt rules, regulations and standards governing the operation of cable communication systems~~  
16 ~~in the City which rules, regulations and standards shall be consistent with this chapter and all~~  
17 ~~other applicable ordinances of the City. Such rules, regulations and standards shall apply to and~~  
18 ~~govern the operations of the grantee of any franchise under this chapter and are expressly~~  
19 ~~declared to be a part of any franchise granted pursuant to this chapter.~~

20 ~~B. Provided the same do not materially alter the contents of any franchise, the Office of Cable~~  
21 ~~Communications may at any time adopt new rules or regulations or standards and may amend,~~  
22 ~~modify, delete or otherwise change rules, regulations or standards previously adopted, provided,~~

1 however, this section shall not be interpreted as a limitation upon the exercise by the City of its  
2 police powers.

3 ~~C. Any rules, regulations or standards proposed to be adopted pursuant to this section shall be~~  
4 ~~adopted in accordance with the procedures prescribed by the Administrative Code of the City.)~~)

5 Section 67. Section 21.60.660 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance  
6 120181 and that currently reads as follows, is repealed:

7 ~~((21.60.660 Equal opportunity employment and affirmative action plan.~~

8  
9 ~~A. During the performance of a franchise, the grantee agrees as follows: The grantee will not~~  
10 ~~discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, creed, color,~~  
11 ~~sex, age, or national origin, unless based upon bona fide occupational qualification. The grantee~~  
12 ~~will take affirmative action to ensure that applicants are employed, and that employees are~~  
13 ~~treated during employment, without regard to their creed, race, color, sex, age, or national origin.~~  
14 ~~Such action shall include, but not be limited to the following: employment, upgrading, demotion,~~  
15 ~~or transfer, recruitment, or recruitment advertising, layoff or termination, rates of pay or other~~  
16 ~~forms of compensation, and selection for training, including apprenticeship. The grantee agrees~~  
17 ~~to post in conspicuous places, available to employees and applicants for employment, notices to~~  
18 ~~be provided by the contracting officer setting forth the provisions of this nondiscrimination~~  
19 ~~elause.~~

20  
21  
22 ~~B. Grantee also agrees that it will, prior to commencement of operations pursuant to its franchise~~  
23 ~~and during the term of the franchise, furnish to the Chief Technology Officer of the City, upon~~  
24 ~~his or her request and on such form as may be provided by the Chief Technology Officer~~  
25 ~~therefor, a report of the affirmative action taken by the grantee in implementing the terms of this~~  
26

1 ~~provision, and will permit access to his or her records of employment, employment~~  
2 ~~advertisements, application forms, other pertinent data and records by the Chief Technology~~  
3 ~~Officer for the purpose of investigation to determine compliance with this provision.~~

4 ~~C. If upon investigation the Chief Technology Officer finds probable cause to believe that the~~  
5 ~~grantee has failed to comply with any of the terms of this section, the grantee and the Council~~  
6 ~~shall be so notified in writing. The Council shall give the grantee an opportunity to be heard,~~  
7 ~~after ten (10) days' notice. If the Council concurs in the findings of the Chief Technology~~  
8 ~~Officer, it may suspend the franchise, pending compliance by the grantee with the terms of this~~  
9 ~~provision.~~

10 ~~D. Failure to comply with any of the terms of this section shall be a material breach of the~~  
11 ~~franchise.~~

12 ~~E. Comparable provisions shall be inserted in all subcontracts for work covered by any~~  
13 ~~franchise.))~~

14  
15  
16 Section 68. Section 21.60.670 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance  
17 105427 and that currently reads as follows, is repealed:

18 ~~**((21.60.670 Interpretation.**~~

19 ~~This chapter and any franchise granted pursuant to it shall at all times be so interpreted as to~~  
20 ~~require the grantee to comply with all pertinent rules, regulations and requirements of the Federal~~  
21 ~~Communications Commission, or any other federal or state body or agency having jurisdiction in~~  
22 ~~regard to CATV systems. Such interpretation of this chapter shall not be deemed to diminish,~~  
23 ~~impair, alter or affect any contractual benefit to the City or grantee, nor any contractual~~  
24 ~~obligation of the grantee under any franchise issued under this chapter.))~~

1 Section 69. Section 21.60.680 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance  
2 105427 and that currently reads as follows, is repealed:

3 ~~((21.60.680 Effective date.~~

4 ~~The ordinance codified in this chapter shall become effective thirty (30) days from and after its~~  
5 ~~passage and approval by the Mayor except as follows:~~

6 ~~A. Nothing contained in this chapter shall abridge, impair, alter, modify or in any way affect any~~  
7 ~~right, privilege or immunity of either the grantee or the City conferred by or arising under any~~  
8 ~~cable franchise granted prior to and remaining in effect on the effective date of the ordinance~~  
9 ~~codified in this chapter; provided, that the acceptance of a franchise granted under this chapter~~  
10 ~~for any cable district shall be deemed to constitute the surrender by the grantee of the right to~~  
11 ~~operate a CATV system in that cable district under any prior franchise.~~

12 ~~B. Subsections B, D and E of Section 21.60.090 shall become effective when 47 C.F.R. §~~  
13 ~~76.251, as now in effect or as hereafter amended, becomes applicable to systems that~~  
14 ~~commenced operations before March 31, 1972.)~~

15  
16  
17 Section 70. Section 21.60.690 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance  
18 105427 and that currently reads as follows, is repealed:

19 ~~((21.60.690 Incorporation by reference into each franchise.~~

20 ~~The Cable Communications Ordinance codified in this chapter shall be incorporated in its~~  
21 ~~entirety by reference into and become a part of each and every cable television franchise granted~~  
22 ~~by the City.)~~

23  
24 Section 71. Section 21.60.700 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance  
25 120138 and that currently reads as follows, is repealed:



1 ~~((21.60.700 Interim permits pending franchise grant and transition rule.~~

2 ~~Prior to the approval of a franchise for the Central Business Franchise District or a City-wide~~  
3 ~~franchise, the Director of the Department of Information Technology shall propose a transition~~  
4 ~~rule for Council adoption to balance the desire to have cable television services provided by~~  
5 ~~franchise holders for the district in which services are provided, to minimize customers who~~  
6 ~~desire cable service from being denied such service, and to have current cable services customers~~  
7 ~~protected from a reduction in service or increase in cost as a result of the issuance of the~~  
8 ~~franchise for the Central Business Franchise District or City-wide franchise.))~~

9  
10 Section 72. Section 21.60.710 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance  
11 120263 and that currently reads as follows, is repealed:

12 ~~((21.60.710 Transition rule.~~

13 ~~A. Upon the issuance of a franchise for the Central Business Franchise District (CBFD) the~~  
14 ~~holders of street use permits issued subject to SMC Section 21.60.700 to provide cable television~~  
15 ~~service in the CBFD shall be governed by this section. The Office of Cable Communications~~  
16 ~~shall notify permit holders of their right to seek a franchise for the CBFD consistent with the~~  
17 ~~provisions of 47 U.S.C. Section 546. Permit holders shall notify the Office of Cable~~  
18 ~~Communications within ninety (90) days of this notice as to whether they will pursue a franchise~~  
19 ~~for the CBFD and if so, whether they wish to follow the procedure in 47 U.S.C. Sections 546(b)~~  
20 ~~through (g), or the alternative procedure in 47 U.S.C. Section 546(h).~~

21  
22  
23 ~~B. Once a franchise is issued for the Central Business Franchise District (CBFD) or a City-wide~~  
24 ~~Franchise District (CFD), the Director of Transportation may issue temporary and revocable~~  
25

1 ~~street use (utility) permits for the provision of cable television services within the CBFD, to other~~  
2 ~~than the holder of a franchise which covers the CBFD, only if the following conditions are met:~~

3 ~~1. The applicant has previously obtained a permit pursuant to the provisions of SMC Section~~  
4 ~~21.60.700 to provide service in the CBFD;~~

5 ~~2. Within ninety (90) days of receipt of the notice from the Office of Cable Communications of~~  
6 ~~its right to seek a franchise for the CBFD as provided in subsection A of this section, the~~  
7 ~~applicant has notified the Office of Cable Communications that it will pursue a franchise for the~~  
8 ~~CBFD, and there is not a final determination, including judicial review under 47 U.S.C. Sections~~  
9 ~~546 and 555, on a franchise application.~~

10 ~~C. Ninety (90) days after the final determination in subsection B2 of this section, that a holder of~~  
11 ~~a permit to provide cable television service under Section 21.60.700 has failed to obtain a~~  
12 ~~franchise for the CBFD pursuant to this section, the permit holder must terminate the provision~~  
13 ~~of cable television service within the CBFD consistent with 47 U.S.C. Section 547.)~~

14  
15  
16 Section 73. Section 21.60.800 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance  
17 120775, is amended as follows:

18 **21.60.800 ((-)) Policy ((:))**

19 ~~A. \_\_\_\_\_ The ((Cable Operator)) grantee shall ((be permitted option and autonomy)) have a right to~~  
20 ~~first resolve ((Customer)) customer inquiries and complaints without delay and interference from~~  
21 ~~the City.~~

22  
23 ~~B. \_\_\_\_\_ Where a given ((Complaint)) complaint is not addressed by the ((Cable Operator))~~  
24 ~~grantee to the ((Customer's)) customer's satisfaction, the City may intervene. In addition, where~~  
25 ~~a pattern of, or unremedied, noncompliance with ((the Standards)) this Subchapter II is~~

1 identified, the City may prescribe a cure and establish a ~~((thirty (30)))~~ 30-day deadline for  
2 implementation of the cure. If the noncompliance is not cured within ~~((thirty (30)))~~ 30 days,  
3 monetary sanctions of up to ~~((five hundred dollars (\$500.00)))~~ \$1,000 may be imposed to  
4 encourage compliance.

5 C.        These ~~((Standards))~~ standards are intended to be of general application; however, the  
6 ~~((Cable Operator))~~ grantee shall be relieved of any obligations hereunder if it is unable to  
7 perform due to a force majeure event listed in Section 21.60.270 affecting a significant portion of  
8 the franchise area. The ~~((Cable Operator))~~ grantee is free to exceed these ~~((Standards))~~ standards  
9 to the benefit of its ~~((Customers))~~ customers, and such shall be considered performance for the  
10 purpose of enforcing these ~~((Standards))~~ standards.

11  
12 D.        ~~((These Standards are supplementary to any Customer service requirements in any  
13 existing franchise agreements between a Cable Operator and the City.))~~ The provisions contained  
14 in this Subchapter II and in franchise agreements should be interpreted consistently wherever  
15 possible. ~~((Where))~~ If the provisions of this Subchapter II and any franchise agreement are  
16 inconsistent, the provisions of ~~((the franchise agreement will control for purposes of assessing  
17 fines, penalties and compliance with the City's franchise; however, the requirements for  
18 maintaining in City service centers as specified in SMC Section 21.60.820 B, the privacy  
19 provisions of SMC Section 21.60.830 F, and for assessing credits, refunds, or other specific  
20 remedies under Schedule A of))~~ this ~~((subchapter))~~ Subchapter II ~~((, shall))~~ control. ~~((over any  
21 inconsistent franchise provisions.))~~

22  
23  
24 Section 74. Section 21.60.810 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance  
25 120775 and that currently reads as follows, is repealed:  
26

1 ~~((21.60.810 – Definitions.~~

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

4 ~~"Cable Operator" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 602(5) of the federal~~  
5 ~~Communications Act, 47 U.S.C. 522(5).~~

6 ~~"Cable Services" shall mean (a) the one-way transmission to Customers of video programming,~~  
7 ~~or other programming service, and (b) Customer interaction, if any, which is required for the~~  
8 ~~selection and use of such video programming or other programming service.~~

9 ~~"Cable System" shall have the meaning set forth in Section 602(7) of the federal~~  
10 ~~Communications Act, 47 U.S.C. § 522(7).~~

11 ~~"City" means the City of Seattle, Washington.~~

12 ~~"Complaint" shall mean any issue raised by a Customer that is a violation of the Cable Customer~~  
13 ~~Bill of Rights.~~

14 ~~"Customer" means any person who lawfully receives Cable Services or Other Services from the~~  
15 ~~Cable Operator.~~

16 ~~"Customer Service Representative" ("CSR") means any person employed by the Cable Operator~~  
17 ~~to assist, or provide service to Customers, whether by answering public telephone lines, writing~~  
18 ~~service or installation orders, answering Customers' questions, receiving and processing~~  
19 ~~payments, or performing other Customer service related tasks.~~

20 ~~"Other Service" means any wire or radio communications service, including, but not limited to,~~  
21 ~~any interactive television or Internet Service, provided through the use of any of the facilities of~~  
22 ~~a Cable Operator that are used in the provision of a Cable Service.~~

1 ~~"Non-Standard Installation" means any installation of cable services that requires the installation~~  
2 ~~of facilities from a point more than one hundred twenty five (125) feet from the Customer's~~  
3 ~~property line to: (1) for a prewired dwelling unit, the federal demarcation point; or (2) for an~~  
4 ~~unwired dwelling unit, a point not less than twelve (12) inches from the exterior wall of the~~  
5 ~~dwelling unit; or (3) any underground installation in an area where plant facilities are not~~  
6 ~~underground; or (4) any installation calling for multiple outlets in a dwelling unit; or (5) a~~  
7 ~~commercial installation.~~

8  
9 ~~"Normal Business Hours" means the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., Monday through Friday,~~  
10 ~~and 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Saturday, excluding legal holidays.~~

11 ~~"Normal Operating Conditions" means service conditions within the control of the Cable~~  
12 ~~Operator. Those conditions that are not within the control of the Cable Operator include, but are~~  
13 ~~not limited to, natural disasters, civil disturbances, power outages, telephone network outages,~~  
14 ~~and severe or unusual weather conditions. Those conditions that are ordinarily within the control~~  
15 ~~of the Cable Operator include, but are not limited to, special promotions, pay per view events,~~  
16 ~~rate increases, regular peak or seasonal demand periods, and maintenance or upgrade of the~~  
17 ~~Cable System.~~

18  
19 ~~"Standard Installation" means (1) for an unwired dwelling unit, an installation of cable service to~~  
20 ~~the Customer's dwelling unit located up to one hundred twenty five (125) feet from the existing~~  
21 ~~distribution system, plus additional inside wire and at least one (1) outlet sufficient to receive~~  
22 ~~cable services; and (2) for a prewired dwelling, the installation of cable service to the federal~~  
23 ~~demarcation point located on the Customer's property up to one hundred twenty five (125) feet~~  
24 ~~from the Customer's property line, sufficient to receive cable services and where the prewired~~  
25  
26

1 equipment will allow the Cable System to meet all Federal Communications Commission (FCC)  
2 technical requirements.))

3 Section 75. Section 21.60.820 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance  
4 120775, is amended as follows:

5 **21.60.820 ((-)) Customer service ((-))**

6 A. Courtesy ((-))

7 All employees of the ((Cable Operator)) grantee shall be courteous, knowledgeable, and  
8 helpful. Grantee's employees, agents, contractors, and subcontractors shall provide accurate  
9 information and effective, timely, and satisfactory service in all contacts with ((Customers))  
10 customers.

11 B. Accessibility(((-))

12 1. 1. ((The Cable Operator)) Except as otherwise approved by the City in a franchise,  
13 the grantee shall provide at least one ((+)) service center for each ((seventy-five thousand  
14 (75,000) Customers)) 75,000 customers served, located at a safe, visible site within the City ((of  
15 Seattle,)) that is handicapped accessible ((-)) and located along mass transit routes. Except as  
16 otherwise approved by the City, all service centers shall be open ((Monday through Friday, 8:00  
17 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., and Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., excluding legal holidays)) during  
18 normal business hours((-)) and shall be fully staffed on-site with CSRs offering the following  
19 services to ((Customers))customers who come to the service center: bill payment (including the  
20 ability to provide change and ((Customer)) customer receipts) ((-)); equipment exchange((-);  
21 processing of change of service requests((-); and response to ((Customer)) customer inquiries  
22 and requests. The City may approve alternatives for service centers that provide substantially  
23  
24  
25  
26

1 equivalent services. The ~~((Cable Operator))~~ grantee shall post a sign at each service center  
2 advising ~~((Customers))~~ customers of its hours of operation and of the addresses and telephone  
3 numbers to contact the City and the ~~((Cable Operator))~~ grantee after ~~((if the service center is not~~  
4 ~~open at other than Normal Business Hours))~~ normal business hours. The ~~((Cable Operator))~~  
5 grantee shall provide free exchanges of faulty ~~((converters))~~ equipment at the ~~((Customer's))~~  
6 customer's address.

7  
8 2. CSRs will be available to respond to ~~((Customer))~~ customer inquiries during  
9 ~~((Normal Business Hours))~~ normal business hours. The ~~((Cable Operator))~~ grantee shall maintain  
10 local or toll free telephone access lines that shall be available during ~~((Normal Business Hours))~~  
11 normal business hours for service/repair requests and billing inquiries.

12 3. The ~~((Cable Operator))~~ grantee shall have dispatchers and technicians on call  
13 ~~((twenty four (24)))~~ 24 hours a day, seven ~~((7))~~ days a week, including legal holidays, for  
14 emergency purposes.

15  
16 4. The ~~((Cable Operator))~~ grantee shall ~~((retain))~~ keep sufficient ~~((Customer Service~~  
17 ~~Representatives))~~ CSR and telephone line capacity to ensure that telephone calls ~~((to~~  
18 ~~service/repair and billing inquiry lines))~~ are answered by an IVR or a CSR within ~~((thirty (30)~~  
19 ~~seconds or less, and that any transfers are made within thirty (30) seconds. The Customer shall~~  
20 ~~be able to speak with a Customer Service Representative within five (5) minutes.))~~ 30 seconds  
21 under normal operating conditions. If the call is answered by an IVR, the IVR must allow the  
22 option to speak with a CSR within no more than three minutes. If a customer has exercised the  
23 option to speak with a CSR, the customer shall be able to speak with a CSR within 30 seconds  
24 once the call is transferred during normal business hours ~~((These standards))~~ This standard shall  
25  
26

1 be met no less than ~~((ninety (90)))~~ 80 percent of the time, measured on a ~~((quarterly))~~ monthly  
2 basis under ~~((Normal Operating Conditions.))~~ normal operating conditions. Compliance with  
3 this standard shall be reported on a quarterly basis ~~((-))~~ according to a reporting form established  
4 by the Office of Cable Communications. Any grantee of a new franchise will not be required to  
5 complete or send the report described in Section 21.60.840 until 12 months after the effective  
6 date of the new franchise.

7  
8 5.      The total number of calls receiving busy signals shall not exceed three ~~((3))~~  
9 percent of the total telephone calls. This standard shall be met ~~((ninety (90)))~~ no less than 90  
10 percent ~~((or more))~~ of the time, measured on a quarterly basis under ~~((Normal Operating~~  
11 ~~Conditions))~~ normal operating conditions.

12 ~~((The Cable Operator shall also retain sufficient Customer Service Representatives and~~  
13 ~~telephone line capacity to ensure that a Customer shall make contact with a human being within~~  
14 ~~five (5) minutes.))~~

15  
16 C. Responsiveness ~~((-))~~

17 1. Guaranteed ~~((Seven))~~ seven-day ~~((Standard installation))~~ standard  
18 installation and ~~((Service))~~ service. The ~~((Cable Operator))~~ grantee shall complete all  
19 ~~((Standard))~~ standard installations and ~~((Service Repairs))~~ service repairs requested by  
20 ~~((Customers))~~ customers within seven ~~((7))~~ business days after an order has been placed, unless  
21 otherwise requested by the ~~((Customer))~~ customer. This standard must be met ~~((ninety five~~  
22 ~~(95)))~~ no less than 95 percent of the time under ~~((Normal Operating Conditions))~~ normal  
23 operating conditions measured on a quarterly basis. If the ~~((Customer))~~ customer requests a  
24 ~~((Non Standard Installation))~~ non-standard installation, or the ~~((Cable Operator))~~ grantee  
25  
26



1 determines that a ~~((Non-Standard Installation))~~ non-standard installation is required, the ~~((Cable~~  
2 ~~Operator))~~ grantee shall provide the ~~((Customer))~~ customer in advance with a total installation  
3 cost estimate and an estimated date of completion. All underground cable drops ~~((from the curb~~  
4 ~~to the home))~~ shall be buried at a depth of no less than ~~((twelve (12)))~~ 12 inches ~~((;))~~ and work  
5 shall be completed within ~~((no more three (3)))~~ three calendar weeks from the initial installation,  
6 or at a time mutually agreed upon between the ~~((Cable Operator and Customer))~~ grantee and  
7 customer.

8  
9 2. Residential ~~((Installation))~~ installation and ~~((Service Appointments))~~ service  
10 appointments. Customers requesting installation of cable service or repair service to an existing  
11 installation may choose any available ~~((four (4)))~~ four-hour block of time ~~((for the installation~~  
12 ~~appointment))~~ during ~~((Normal Business Hours))~~ normal business hours. The ~~((Cable Operator))~~  
13 grantee shall provide ~~((Customers))~~ customers the option of service or installation appointments  
14 weekday evenings until ~~((7:00))~~ 7 p.m. and a minimum of four ~~((4))~~ hours on Saturdays at the  
15 request of and for the convenience of the ~~((Customer))~~ customer. The ~~((Cable Operator))~~ grantee  
16 may not cancel an appointment with a ~~((Customer))~~ customer after ~~((5:00))~~ 5 p.m. on the day  
17 before the scheduled appointment.

18  
19 ~~((The Cable Operator shall contact new Customers by telephone, mail, e-mail or in~~  
20 ~~person within two (2) weeks after installation or provide a self-addressed stamped response~~  
21 ~~postcard to all Customers in its installation materials to assure overall Customer satisfaction with~~  
22 ~~the work completed. The Cable Operator shall maintain records of a reasonable sample of~~  
23 ~~Customer responses.))~~

1           a. As part of the installation process, the grantee shall provide documentation  
2 explaining the 30-day satisfaction guaranteed program pursuant to subsection 21.60.820.H. The  
3 documentation must include the toll-free contact number a customer can use to exercise  
4 customer rights under this Section 21.60.820.

5           b. The ((Cable Operator)) grantee shall be deemed to have responded to a  
6 request for service under the provisions of this ((section)) Section 21.60.820 ((when))if a  
7 technician arrives within the ((agreed-upon)) agreed-upon time period. If the ((Customer))  
8 customer is absent when the technician arrives, the technician shall verify the appointment with  
9 ((his/her)) the technician's dispatcher by telephone while at the ((Customer's)) customer's door  
10 and leave written notification of timely arrival. ((A copy of that notification shall be kept by the  
11 Cable Operator)) The grantee shall keep a record of the notification. In such circumstances, the  
12 customer must contact the ((Cable Operator)) grantee to reschedule the appointment ((shall  
13 contact the Customer within forty-eight (48) hours)). In the event that a technician arrives  
14 without a prior appointment, and the ((Customer)) customer must be present for service to  
15 proceed, and the ((Customer)) customer is absent, ((it shall not be deemed that the Cable  
16 Operator has)) the grantee will not be considered to have responded to a request for service.

17           c. If a ((Cable Operator)) grantee representative fails to keep an installation  
18 or service appointment for any reason, the ((Cable Operator)) grantee will contact the  
19 ((Customer)) customer before the end of the scheduled appointment ((,)) and reschedule the  
20 appointment at a time convenient for the ((Customer)) customer.

21           3. Outages and Other Service Interruptions.

1           a.       In the event of a system ~~((outages))~~ outage ~~((loss of reception of sound or~~  
2 ~~video or interactive television, or failure of Internet or e-mail connections))~~ (an outage is a  
3 service interruption that involves a loss or substantial impairment in reception on all channels for  
4 a period of one hour or more) resulting from ~~((Cable Operator))~~ grantee equipment failure  
5 affecting five ~~((5))~~ or more ~~((Customers))~~ customers, the ~~((Cable Operator))~~ grantee shall  
6 initiate repairs within two ~~((2))~~ hours after the third ~~((Customer call is received))~~ customer calls  
7 to report the outage.

8  
9           b.       All ~~((Customers))~~ customers who call the ~~((Cable Operator))~~ grantee to  
10 report an outage shall receive credit for the entire day on which the outage occurred and for each  
11 additional day the outage continues.

12           c.       The ~~((Cable Operator))~~ grantee shall notify the City of any outage of at  
13 least four ~~((4))~~ continuous hours that affects at least ten ~~((10))~~ percent of its ~~((Customers))~~  
14 customers.

15  
16           ~~((a))~~d. The ~~((Cable Operator))~~ grantee shall initiate repairs ~~((to))~~ for all other  
17 service interruptions resulting from ~~((Cable Operator))~~ grantee equipment failure within  
18 ~~((twenty-four (24)))~~ 24 hours. Grantee shall provide any customer who reports a service  
19 interruption with a credit for each day of service interruption due to the grantee's equipment  
20 failure.

21  
22           ~~((b))~~e. ~~((A Cable Operator))~~ The grantee shall initiate repairs to ~~((Customer))~~  
23 customer-reported outages and service interruptions, for any cause beyond the control of the  
24 ~~((Cable Operator))~~ grantee, within ~~((twenty-four (24)))~~ 24 hours after the conditions beyond its  
25 control have been corrected.

1           4.     TV ~~((Reception and Cable Modem Internet Connection))~~ reception. The signal  
2 quality provided by the ~~((Cable Operator))~~ grantee shall meet or exceed technical standards  
3 established by the ~~((United States Federal Communications Commission (FCC). Cable modem~~  
4 ~~Internet connections shall meet performance specifications advertised by the Cable Operator.~~  
5 ~~The Cable Operator))~~ FCC. The grantee shall render efficient service, make repairs promptly,  
6 and interrupt service only for good cause and for the shortest time possible.

7           a.     ~~((Scheduled interruptions))~~ A planned outage that the ~~((Cable Operator))~~  
8 grantee anticipates will last more than four ~~((4))~~ hours shall be preceded by at least ~~((twenty-~~  
9 ~~four (24) hour's notice))~~ 24 hours' notice to affected ~~((Customers))~~ customers ~~((,))~~ and shall  
10 occur during periods of minimum use of the system, preferably between midnight and ~~((6:00))~~ 6  
11 a.m. Such notification of a planned outage may take the form of a door hanger, a message or  
12 insert into the monthly bill, or a telephone call ~~((, or))~~ and may be supplemented with on-screen  
13 messages announcing the planned outage. ~~((Cable modem Internet Customers may receive~~  
14 ~~notification by e-mail.))~~

15           b.     If a ~~((Customer))~~ customer experiences poor signal quality or reception,  
16 ~~((interruptions of Cable or Other Services attributable to the Cable Operator's equipment, the~~  
17 ~~Cable Operator))~~ the grantee shall respond and repair the problem no later than the day following  
18 the ~~((Customer))~~ customer call provided that the ~~((Customer))~~ customer is available and the  
19 repair can be made within the allotted time. If an appointment is necessary, the ~~((Customer))~~  
20 customer may choose a ~~((four (4))~~ four-hour block of time during ~~((Normal Business Hours))~~  
21 normal business hours. At the ~~((Customer's))~~ customer's request, the ~~((Cable Operator))~~ grantee  
22 shall repair the problem at a later time convenient to the ~~((Customer))~~ customer. The ~~((Cable~~  
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1 ~~Operator))~~ grantee shall provide ~~((Customers the Option))~~ customers the option of service or  
2 installation appointments weekday evenings until ~~((7:00))~~ 7 p.m. and ~~((a minimum of four (4)~~  
3 ~~hours))~~ until 5 p.m. on Saturdays.

4 5. ~~Problem ((Resolution.))~~ resolution

5 a. ~~\_\_\_\_\_ A ((Cable Operator's))~~ grantee's CSRs shall have the authority to provide  
6 credit for interrupted service or any of the other credits listed in ~~((Schedule A))~~ Section  
7 21.60.850, to waive fees, to schedule service appointments, and to change billing cycles,  
8 ~~((where))~~ if appropriate.

9 b. ~~\_\_\_\_\_ Any~~ difficulties that cannot be resolved by the CSR shall be referred to the  
10 appropriate supervisor who shall make best efforts to contact the ~~((Customer))~~ customer within  
11 four ~~((4))~~ hours ~~((and))~~ and resolve the problem within ~~((forty-eight (48))~~ 48 hours or within  
12 such other time frame as is ~~((acceptable to the Customer and the Cable Operator))~~ reasonable.

13 14 6. ~~Billings, ((Credits, Refunds, and Deposits.))~~ credits, refunds, and deposits

15 a. ~~\_\_\_\_\_ ((Customers will receive))~~ Grantee will send customers a clear and concise  
16 bill every month. ~~((To be considered clear and concise,))~~ The grantee shall provide a due date on  
17 each bill that is at least 30 days from the beginning date of the applicable billing cycle. ~~((due~~  
18 ~~dates shall be required, and a))~~ A monthly bill shall be issued to all customers regardless of  
19 balance due. The customer shall retain the option of whether to receive bills by mail or  
20 electronically.

21 b. ~~\_\_\_\_\_ The ((Cable Operator))~~ grantee shall respond to a ~~((Customer's))~~  
22 customer's billing inquiry, general question, or comment made by telephone or e-mail within  
23 ~~((forty-eight (48))~~ 48 hours during normal business hours. The ~~((Cable Operator))~~ grantee shall  
24

1 respond in writing to a written and mailed billing inquiry, general question, or comment within  
2 two weeks of the ~~((late))~~ date of receipt of the letter. ~~((The Cable Operator shall provide the~~  
3 ~~option of a mailed bill and payment to Customers upon request.))~~

4 c. ~~((The Cable Operator shall allow at least thirty (30) days from the~~  
5 ~~beginning date of the applicable billing cycle for payment of a Customer's service bill for that~~  
6 ~~period.))~~ If a ~~((Customer's))~~ customer's service bill is not paid by the due date ~~((within that~~  
7 ~~period of time))~~ the ~~((Cable Operator))~~ grantee may apply an administrative fee to the  
8 ~~((Customer's))~~ customer's account. If the ~~((Customer's))~~ customer's service bill is not paid  
9 within ~~((forty five (45)))~~ 45 days of the beginning date of the applicable service period, the  
10 ~~((Cable Operator))~~ grantee may perform a "soft" disconnect of the ~~((Customer's))~~ customer's  
11 service. If a ~~((Customer's))~~ customer's service bill is not paid within ~~((fifty two (52)))~~ 52 days of  
12 the beginning date of the applicable service period, the ~~((Cable Operator))~~ grantee may  
13 disconnect the ~~((Customer's))~~ customer's service ~~((; provided,))~~ , but only upon showing that it  
14 ~~((has))~~ provided ten ~~((10 days))~~ days' notice to the ~~((Customer))~~ customer that such  
15 disconnection may result.

16 d. ~~((If a (Customer))~~ customer requests ~~((disconnection))~~ cancellation of any  
17 or all services, billing for affected services shall end on the same day, or on the future date for  
18 which the ~~((disconnect))~~ cancellation is ~~((ordered.))~~ requested. After the requested cancellation  
19 date, the ~~((The Customer))~~ customer shall not be responsible for ~~((Cable Services))~~ cable  
20 services delivered ~~((after the request))~~. The ~~((Cable Operator))~~ grantee must refund any credit  
21 balance owed the ~~((Customer))~~ customer, less any owed or disputed amounts, within ~~((fifteen~~  
22 ~~(15)))~~ 15 business days after the close of the ~~((Customer's))~~ customer's billing cycle following  
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1 the return of the equipment and request for ~~((disconnection))~~ cancellation. ~~((The Cable Operator~~  
2 ~~shall issue a credit or refund to a Customer within fifteen (15) business days after the close of the~~  
3 ~~billing cycle following the return of the equipment and request for disconnection.))~~

4 e. \_\_\_\_\_ Deposits shall accrue interest at a fair market rate. Within ~~((ten (10)))~~ 15  
5 business days after ~~((termination))~~ cancellation of service, the ~~((Cable Operator))~~ grantee shall  
6 repay any deposit with a statement showing accrued interest to the ~~((Customer))~~ customer, less  
7 any sums owed to the ~~((Cable Operator))~~ grantee.

9 7. Treatment of ~~((Property Owner's Property.))~~ property owner's property

10 a. \_\_\_\_\_ Trees, ~~((and))~~ shrubs, ~~((or))~~ and other landscaping on a ~~((Customer's))~~  
11 customer's property that are damaged by the ~~((Cable Operator))~~ grantee, or any employee or  
12 authorized agent, during installation or construction for the ~~((Customer))~~ customer or in the  
13 process of serving adjacent structures, shall be restored to their prior condition or ~~((--))~~ replaced.  
14 Trees and shrubs shall not be removed without the prior permission of the owner of the property  
15 on which they are located.

17 b. \_\_\_\_\_ The ~~((Cable Operator))~~ grantee shall, at its own cost and expense, and in a  
18 manner approved by the property owner and the City, restore any property to as good condition  
19 as before the work causing such disturbance was initiated. The ~~((Cable Operator))~~ grantee shall  
20 repair or ~~((;))~~ replace any damaged property, or compensate property owners ~~((or compensate all~~  
21 ~~property owners))~~ for ~~((damages))~~ damage resulting from the ~~((Cable Operator))~~ grantee's  
22 installation, construction, service, or repair activities for a ~~((Customer))~~ customer.

24 c. \_\_\_\_\_ Except in the case of an emergency involving public safety or service  
25 interruption to a large number of ~~((Customers,))~~ customers, or where the grantee has a legal right  
26

1 of access or entry, the ((Cable Operator)) grantee shall give reasonable notice to property owners  
2 or legal tenants ((prior to)) before entering upon their private ((premises)) property, and the  
3 notice shall specify the work to be performed ((; provided that, in)). In the case of construction  
4 operations, such notice shall be delivered or provided at least ((twenty-four (24))) 24 hours  
5 ((prior to)) before entry. In the case of an emergency, the grantee shall attempt to contact the  
6 property owner or legal tenant in person, and shall leave a door hanger notice in the event  
7 personal contact is not made. Nothing ((herein shall be construed as authorizing)) in this Chapter  
8 21.60 authorizes access or entry to private property, or any other property, where such right to  
9 access or entry is not otherwise provided by law. If damage is caused by ((Cable Operator))  
10 grantee activity, the ((Cable Operator)) grantee shall reimburse the property owner ((one hundred  
11 (100))) 100 percent of the cost of repairing the damage or ((replace)) replacing the damaged  
12 property. For the installation of pedestals or other major construction or installation projects,  
13 property owners shall also be notified by mail or door hanger notice at least one ((1)) week in  
14 advance. ((In the case of an emergency, the Cable Operator shall attempt to contact the property  
15 owner or legal tenant in person, and shall leave a door hanger notice in the event personal contact  
16 is not made.))  
17  
18  
19

20 d. \_\_\_\_ The ((Cable Operator)) grantee shall clean all areas surrounding any work  
21 site of debris caused by the ((Cable Operator)) grantee's activities and ensure that all ((eable))  
22 materials are disposed of properly.

23 D. Services for ((Customers)) customers with ((Disabilities.)) disabilities

24 1. \_\_\_\_ For any ((Customer)) customer with a verified disability ((;) that prevents the  
25 ((Cable Operator)) customer from self-installing equipment, the grantee shall at no charge  
26



1 deliver, install, and pick up (~~converters~~) equipment at the (~~Customer's~~) customer's home. In  
2 the case of malfunctioning equipment, the (~~technician~~) grantee shall provide and install  
3 substitute equipment, ensure that it is working properly, and (~~return~~)remove the defective  
4 equipment (~~to the Cable Operator~~).

5 2. \_\_\_\_\_ The (~~Cable Operator~~) grantee shall provide (~~TDD/TTY~~) TDD/TTY service  
6 with trained operators who can provide every type of assistance rendered by the (~~Cable~~  
7 ~~Operator~~) grantee's CSR for any hearing-impaired (~~Customer~~) customer at no charge.

8 3. \_\_\_\_\_ The grantee shall install, at no charge, any closed captioning device purchased by  
9 a hearing-impaired customer.

10 4. \_\_\_\_\_ The (~~Cable Operator~~) grantee shall provide free use of a converter remote  
11 control unit to mobility-impaired (~~Customers~~) customers.

12 5. \_\_\_\_\_ Any (~~Customer~~) customer with a disability may request the special services and  
13 equipment described (~~above~~) in this Section 21.60.820 by providing the (~~Cable Operator~~)  
14 grantee with a letter from the (~~Customer's~~) customer's physician stating the need, or by making  
15 the request to the (~~Cable Operator's~~) grantee's installer or service technician, (~~where~~) if the  
16 need for the special services can be visually confirmed.

17 E. Customer (~~Information~~) information

18 1. \_\_\_\_\_ Upon (~~(1)~~) installation, (~~(2)~~) annually, (~~(3)~~) and (~~(3)~~) at any time (~~the~~) a  
19 (~~Customer~~) customer requests, the (~~Cable Operator~~) grantee shall provide the following  
20 information to its customers (~~(3)~~) in a clear, concise written form (~~(3)~~). In addition, the grantee  
21 shall notify customers 30 days in advance of any significant changes in the following:

1 a. ~~\_\_\_\_ ((Products and)) Cable services offered by the ((Cable Operator)) grantee,~~  
2 including its channel lineup ~~((. Thirty (30) days prior to the Cable Operator changing its channel~~  
3 ~~lineup, the Cable Operator shall provide subscribers with the revised channel lineup));~~

4 b. ~~\_\_\_\_ The ((Cable Operator)) grantee's prices and options for ((programming))~~  
5 ~~cable services((;)); conditions of subscription to ((programming and Other Services)) cable~~  
6 ~~services((;)); and policies concerning changes in services offered, notification of changes,~~  
7 ~~disconnection, and service downgrades((. Thirty (30) days prior to the Cable Operator changing~~  
8 ~~any of the above, the Cable Operator shall provide subscribers with the changes));~~

9 c. ~~\_\_\_\_ ((These Standards, with Schedule A, and any other applicable Customer~~  
10 ~~service)) A description of these Subchapter II (Cable Customer Bill of Rights) standards ((. A~~  
11 ~~written copy of these Standards)) in a form provided by or ((a summary)) approved by the City~~  
12 ~~((shall be provided to Customers at installation and annually; an on-line version shall be~~  
13 ~~considered acceptable annual dissemination of the standards to cable modem Internet~~  
14 ~~Customers));~~

15 d. ~~\_\_\_\_ Installation and service maintenance policies, including the ((Customer's))~~  
16 ~~customer's responsibilities for equipment;~~

17 e. ~~\_\_\_\_ Instruction on the use of cable TV service, remote control, and ((an))~~  
18 ~~standard ((VCR)) video recording device hookups;~~

19 f. ~~\_\_\_\_ Instruction on the use of interactive television if provided by the ((cable~~  
20 ~~operator)) grantee;~~

21 ~~((Instruction on the use of cable modem service;))~~

1 g. \_\_\_\_\_ Billing and complaint procedures, including the address and telephone  
2 number of the ~~((Cable Operator's))~~ grantee's offices, the ~~((Cable Operator's))~~ grantee's policies  
3 on deposits and credit balances, returned check charges, and refunds for disruption of cable  
4 service or poor ~~((reception, and telephone numbers and descriptions of services of the FCC and~~  
5 ~~the City's Office of Cable Communications))~~ signal quality;

6 h. \_\_\_\_\_ Contact information for filing a consumer complaint with the FCC and  
7 the Office of Cable Communications;

8 i. \_\_\_\_\_ Policies concerning protection of ~~((Customer))~~ customer privacy ~~((The~~  
9 ~~Cable Operator shall include a postage paid self-addressed mail back postcard for opt-out~~  
10 ~~purposes))~~, including provisions for opting-out of disclosure of customer name and address for  
11 marketing purposes;

12 j. \_\_\_\_\_ Use and availability of parental control/lock out device;

13 k. \_\_\_\_\_ Special services for ~~((Customers))~~ customers with disabilities including  
14 any ~~((other))~~ discounts required by the ~~((franchises;))~~ franchise or other agreements; and

15 l. \_\_\_\_\_ Days, hours of operation, and locations of the service centers ~~((;))~~.  
16 ~~((A sample of all notices provided to the Customer shall be filed (by fax acceptable) concurrently~~  
17 ~~with the City;))~~

18 2. \_\_\_\_\_ The grantee shall concurrently send to the Office of Cable Communications a  
19 copy of all notices provided to customers under this subsection 21.60.820.E.

20 3. \_\_\_\_\_ The ~~((Cable Operator))~~ grantee shall provide ~~((Customers))~~ customers with  
21 written notification, and announcements on the cable system, of any changes in programming,  
22 services, or channel positions as soon as possible, but no less than 30 days in advance of such

1 changes if the change is within the control of the grantee. ~~((in writing and, when it becomes~~  
2 ~~technologically feasible, through announcements on the Cable System.))~~ Customers shall be  
3 given a description of the changes, their options for changing services they receive, the phone  
4 number for questions, and the effective date. ~~((Notice must be given to Customers a minimum of~~  
5 ~~thirty (30) days in advance of such changes if the change is within the control of the Cable~~  
6 ~~Operator. In addition, the Cable Operator shall notify Customers thirty (30) days in advance of~~  
7 ~~any significant changes in the other information required by the preceding subsection. Channel~~  
8 ~~lineup changes that result from Cable Operator's rebuild of its Cable System are exempt from the~~  
9 ~~thirty (30) day notice requirement;))~~

11 4. All of the grantee's officers, agents, (and) employees (of the Cable Operator,  
12 its), contractors, and subcontractors who are in personal contact with ((Customers)) customers  
13 shall have visible identification cards bearing their name and photograph. The ((Cable Operator))  
14 grantee shall account for all identification cards at all times. Every vehicle of the ((Cable  
15 Operator)) grantee used for providing services to ((Customers)) customers shall be clearly  
16 visually identified to the public as working for the ((Cable Operator)) grantee. All CSRs shall  
17 identify themselves orally to callers immediately following the greeting during each telephone  
18 contact with the public. Officers, agents, (!) and employees of the ((Cable Operator)) grantee  
19 ((;) and its contractors and subcontractors shall ((identifying)) identify themselves to the  
20 ((Customer)) customer when making a service call or installation ((;)) .

23 5. All CSRs, technicians (and) , employees, agents, contractors, and subcontractors  
24 of the ((Cable Operator)) grantee in every contact with a ((Customer)) customer shall state the  
25 estimated cost of the service, repair, or installation orally ((prior to)) before delivery of the  
26

1 service or before any work is performed, and shall provide the ~~((Customer))~~ customer with an  
2 oral statement of the estimated total charges before terminating the telephone call. At the  
3 customer's request, the grantee shall send the customer a written statement detailing such  
4 charges. ~~((or))~~ Grantee shall also provide customers with a written statement of the total  
5 estimated charges before leaving the location at which the work was performed ~~((;))~~.

6 6. All promotional materials advertising cable services shall accurately disclose  
7 price terms. For non-automated orders, the CSRs shall make clear the price of pay-per-view and  
8 pay-per-event programming before an order is taken. The ~~((Cable Operator))~~ grantee shall  
9 distribute promotional material in ~~((multi-unit))~~ multiple unit buildings only with the approval of  
10 the building owner. The ~~((Cable Operator))~~ grantee shall not condition the provision of ~~((Cable~~  
11 Services)) cable services on the receipt of such approval ~~((;))~~ .

12 7. All listings of the grantee's services shall conspicuously display the availability of  
13 all service tiers and corresponding prices for City customers, including the cost of either the  
14 basic cable service subject to rate regulation or the cost of the grantee's lowest priced cable  
15 service tier.

16 8. The ~~((Cable Operator))~~ grantee shall not charge ~~((Customers))~~ customers for any  
17 services they have not affirmatively requested ~~((; provided that, this))~~. This Section 21.60.820  
18 shall not prevent a ~~((Cable Operator))~~ grantee from adding programming to an existing tier.

19 ~~((F. — Cable Customer Privacy. In addition to complying with the requirements in this~~  
20 ~~subsection, a Cable Operator shall fully comply with all obligations under 47 U.S.C. § 551.~~

21 4. ~~Definitions.~~

1 ~~"Affiliate," for purposes of this subsection F, shall mean any person or entity that is owned or~~  
2 ~~controlled by, or under common ownership or control with, a Cable Operator, and provides any~~  
3 ~~Cable Service or Other Service.~~

4 ~~"Necessary," for purposes of this subsection F, shall mean required or indispensable.~~

5 ~~"Non-cable-related purpose," for purposes of this subsection F, means any purpose that is not~~  
6 ~~necessary to render, or conduct a legitimate business activity related to, a Cable Service or Other~~  
7 ~~Service provided by the Cable Operator to a Customer. Market research, telemarketing, and other~~  
8 ~~marketing of services or products shall be considered Non-cable-related purposes.~~

10 ~~"Personally Identifiable Information," for purposes of this subsection F, means specific~~  
11 ~~information about a Customer, including, but not be limited to, a Customer's(a) login~~  
12 ~~information, (b) extent of viewing of video programming or Other Services, (c) shopping~~  
13 ~~choices, (d) interests and opinions, (e) energy uses, (f) medical information, (g) banking data or~~  
14 ~~information, (h) web browsing activities, or (i) any other personal or private information.~~

16 ~~"Personally Identifiable Information" shall not mean aggregate information about Customers~~  
17 ~~which does not identify particular persons.~~

18 ~~2. — Collection and Use of Personally Identifiable Information.~~

19 ~~a. — A Cable Operator shall not use the Cable System to collect, record, monitor or observe~~  
20 ~~Personally Identifiable Information without the prior affirmative written or electronic consent of~~  
21 ~~the Customer unless, and only to the extent that such information is: (a) used to detect~~  
22 ~~unauthorized reception of cable communications, or (b) necessary to render a Cable Service or~~  
23 ~~Other Service provided by the Cable Operator to the Customer.~~

1 ~~b. A Cable Operator shall take such actions as are necessary to prevent any Affiliate from~~  
2 ~~using the facilities of the Cable Operator in any manner, including, but not limited to, sending~~  
3 ~~data or other signals through such facilities, to the extent such use will permit an Affiliate~~  
4 ~~unauthorized access to Personally Identifiable Information on the computer or other equipment~~  
5 ~~of a Customer (regardless of whether such equipment is owned or leased by the Customer or~~  
6 ~~provided by a Cable Operator) or on any of the facilities of the Cable Operator that are used in~~  
7 ~~the provision of Cable Service. This subsection F2b shall not be interpreted to prohibit an~~  
8 ~~Affiliate from obtaining access to Personally Identifiable Information to the extent otherwise~~  
9 ~~permitted by this subsection F.~~

11 ~~e. A Cable Operator shall take such actions as are reasonably necessary to prevent a person~~  
12 ~~or entity (other than Affiliates) from using the facilities of the Cable Operator in any manner,~~  
13 ~~including, but not limited to, sending data or other signals through such facilities, to the extent~~  
14 ~~such use will permit such person or entity unauthorized access to Personally Identifiable~~  
15 ~~Information on the computer or other equipment of a Customer (regardless of whether such~~  
16 ~~equipment is owned or leased by the Customer or provided by a Cable Operator) or on any of the~~  
17 ~~facilities of the Cable Operator that are used in the provision of Cable Service.~~

19 ~~3. Disclosure of Personally Identifiable Information. A Cable Operator shall not disclose~~  
20 ~~Personally Identifiable Information without the prior affirmative written or electronic consent of~~  
21 ~~the Customer, except as follows:~~

23 ~~a. A Cable Operator may disclose for a Non-cable related purpose the name and address of~~  
24 ~~a Customer to any general programming tiers of service and other categories of Cable and Other~~  
25 ~~Service provided by the Cable Operator if the Cable Operator has provided the Customer the~~  
26

1 ~~opportunity to prohibit or limit such disclosure in accordance with this subsection F and Section~~  
2 ~~631 of the Federal Communications Act, 47 U.S.C. § 551, and such disclosure does not directly~~  
3 ~~or indirectly disclose:~~

4 ~~i. A Customer's extent of viewing of a Cable Service or Other Service provided by the~~  
5 ~~Cable Operator;~~

6 ~~ii. The extent of any other use by a Customer of a Cable Service or Other Service provided~~  
7 ~~by the Cable Operator, including, but not limited to a disclosure of the particular viewing~~  
8 ~~selections by a person subscribing to a Cable Service or Other Service, or the particular web sites~~  
9 ~~visited by a Customer to cable modem service (i.e., a Cable Operator may only disclose the fact~~  
10 ~~that a person subscribes to cable modem service); or~~

11 ~~iii. The nature of any transactions made by a Customer over the Cable System of the Cable~~  
12 ~~Operator.~~

13 ~~iv. The nature of programming or sites that a Customer subscribes to or views (i.e., a Cable~~  
14 ~~Operator may only disclose the fact that a person subscribes to a general tier of service or a~~  
15 ~~package of channels with the same type of programming).~~

16 ~~A minimum of thirty (30) days prior to making any disclosure of Personally Identifiable~~  
17 ~~Information of any Customer as provided in this subsection P3a, the Cable Operator shall notify~~  
18 ~~in writing the Office of Cable Communications and each Customer (that the Cable Operator~~  
19 ~~intends to disclose information about) of the specific information that will be disclosed, to whom~~  
20 ~~it will be disclosed, and notice of the Customer's right to prohibit the disclosure of such~~  
21 ~~information for Non-cable related purposes. The notice to Customers may be included with or~~  
22 ~~made a part of the Customer's monthly bill for Cable Service or Other Service or may be made~~  
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1 ~~by separate mailed notice. Each time that this notice is given to a Customer, the Cable Operator~~  
2 ~~also shall provide the Customer with an opportunity to prohibit the disclosure of information in~~  
3 ~~the future. Such opportunity shall be given in one of the following forms: a postage paid, self-~~  
4 ~~addressed post card provided by the Cable Operator; a box that may be checked by the Customer~~  
5 ~~on the Customer's monthly bill for Cable Services or Other Services; a toll free number that the~~  
6 ~~Customer may call; or such other equivalent methods as may be approved by the Office of Cable~~  
7 ~~Communications.~~

8  
9 ~~Additionally, within forty five (45) days after each disclosure of Personally Identifiable~~  
10 ~~Information of any Customer as provided in this subsection F3a, the Cable Operator shall notify~~  
11 ~~in writing the Office of Cable Communications and each Customer (that the Cable Operator has~~  
12 ~~disclosed information about) of the specific information that has been disclosed, to whom it has~~  
13 ~~been disclosed, and notice of the Customer's right to prohibit the disclosure of such information~~  
14 ~~for non-cable related purposes. The notice to Customers may be included with or made a part of~~  
15 ~~the Customer's monthly bill for Cable Service or Other Service or may be made by separate~~  
16 ~~mailed notice. Each time that this notice is given to a Customer, the Cable Operator also shall~~  
17 ~~provide the Customer with an opportunity to prohibit the disclosure of information in the future.~~  
18 ~~Such opportunity shall be given in one of the following forms: a postage paid, self-addressed~~  
19 ~~post card provided by the Cable Operator; a box that may be checked by the Customer on the~~  
20 ~~Customer's monthly bill for Cable Services or Other Services; a toll free number that the~~  
21 ~~Customer may call; or such other equivalent methods as may be approved by the Office of Cable~~  
22 ~~Communications.~~

1 b. ~~A Cable Operator may disclose Personally Identifiable Information only to the extent that~~  
2 ~~it is necessary to render, or conduct a legitimate business activity related to, a Cable~~  
3 ~~Service or Other Service provided by the Cable Operator to the Customer.~~

4 e. ~~To the extent required by federal law, a Cable Operator may disclose Personally~~  
5 ~~Identifiable Information pursuant to a subpoena or valid court order authorizing such~~  
6 ~~disclosure, or to a governmental entity.~~

7  
8 4. ~~Access to Information. Any Personally Identifiable Information gathered and maintained~~  
9 ~~by a Cable Operator shall be made available for Customer examination within thirty~~  
10 ~~(30) days of receiving a request by a Customer to examine such information at the local~~  
11 ~~offices of the Cable Operator or other convenient place within the City designated by the~~  
12 ~~Cable Operator. Upon a reasonable showing by the Customer that the information is~~  
13 ~~inaccurate, a Cable Operator shall correct such information.~~

14  
15 5. ~~Privacy Notice to Customers.~~

16 a. ~~A Cable Operator shall annually mail a separate, written privacy statement to Customers~~  
17 ~~consistent with 47 U.S.C. § 551(a)(1), and shall provide a Customer a copy of such~~  
18 ~~statement at the time the Cable Operator enters into an agreement with the Customer to~~  
19 ~~provide Cable Service or Other Service. The written notice shall be in a clear and~~  
20 ~~conspicuous format and be printed in ten point type or larger.~~

21  
22 b. ~~In the statement required by subsection F5a, a Cable Operator shall state substantially the~~  
23 ~~following regarding the disclosure of Customer information: "Unless a Customer~~  
24 ~~affirmatively consents electronically or in writing to the disclosure of personally~~  
25 ~~identifiable information, any disclosure of personally identifiable information for~~  
26

1 ~~purposes other than to the extent necessary to render, or conduct a legitimate business~~  
2 ~~activity related to, a Cable Service or Other Service, is limited to:~~

3 ~~i. Disclosure pursuant to a subpoena or valid court order authorizing such disclosure; or to a~~  
4 ~~governmental entity, but only to the extent required by applicable federal law.~~

5 ~~ii. Disclosure of the name and address of a Customer to any general programming tiers of~~  
6 ~~service and other categories of cable and Other Services provided by the Cable Operator~~  
7 ~~that do not directly or indirectly disclose:~~

8  
9 ~~(A) A Customer's extent of viewing of a Cable Service or Other Service provided by the~~  
10 ~~Cable Operator,~~

11 ~~(B) The extent of any other use by a Customer of a Cable Service or Other Service provided~~  
12 ~~by the Cable Operator, including, but not limited to, a disclosure of the particular viewing~~  
13 ~~selections by a person subscribing to a Cable Service or Other Service, or the particular~~  
14 ~~web sites visited by a Customer of cable modem service (i.e., a Cable Operator may only~~  
15 ~~disclose the fact that a person subscribes to cable modem service); or~~

16  
17 ~~(C) The nature of any transactions made by a Customer over the Cable System.~~

18 ~~(D) The nature of programming or sites that a Customer subscribes to or views (i.e., a Cable~~  
19 ~~Operator may only disclose the fact that a person subscribes to a general tier of service,~~  
20 ~~or a package of channels with the same type of programming).~~

21  
22 ~~The notice shall also inform the Customers of their right to prohibit the disclosure of their names~~  
23 ~~and addresses in accordance with Subsection b for non-cable related purposes. This opportunity~~  
24 ~~will be presented in the form of both a toll-free telephone number and a postage paid, self-~~  
25 ~~addressed post card, provided by the Cable Operator with the privacy notice or other manner~~  
26

1 acceptable to the Office of Cable Communications. If a Customer exercises his/her right to  
2 prohibit the disclosure of name and address as provided in subsection F3a or this subsection,  
3 such prohibition against disclosure shall remain in effect permanently, unless the Customer  
4 subsequently notifies the Cable Operator in writing that s/he wishes to permit the Cable Operator  
5 to disclose his/her name and address.

6 6. ~~Privacy Reporting Requirements.~~ The Cable Operator shall include in its quarterly report  
7 to the City required by SMC 21.60.830 D information summarizing:

8 1. ~~a.~~ ~~The type of Personally Identifiable Information that was actually collected or~~  
9 ~~disclosed during the reporting period;~~

10 11 ~~b.~~ ~~For each type of Personally Identifiable Information collected or disclosed, a statement~~  
12 ~~sufficient to demonstrate that the Personally Identifiable Information collected or disclosed was:~~

13 ~~(A) collected or disclosed only to the extent Necessary to render, or conduct a legitimate~~

14 ~~business activity related to, a Cable Service or Other Service provided by the Cable Operator;~~

15 ~~(B) used only to the extent Necessary to detect unauthorized reception of cable communications;~~

16 ~~(C) disclosed pursuant to a subpoena or valid court order or to a governmental entity to the~~

17 ~~extent required by federal law; (D) names and addresses disclosed in compliance with subsection~~

18 ~~3a of this section; or (E) a disclosure of personally identifiable information of particular~~

19 ~~subscribers, but only to the extent affirmatively consented to by such subscribers in writing or~~

20 ~~electronically.~~

21 ~~e.~~ ~~The names of all entities to whom such Personally Identifiable Information was~~

22 ~~disclosed, except that a Cable Operator need not provide the name of any court or governmental~~

1 ~~entity to which such disclosure was made if such disclosure would be inconsistent with~~  
2 ~~applicable federal law;~~

3 ~~2. Describe measures that have been taken, or could be taken, to prevent the unauthorized~~  
4 ~~access to Personally Identifiable Information by a person other than the Customer or the Cable~~  
5 ~~Operator, including, among other things, a description of the technology that is or could be~~  
6 ~~applied by the Cable Operator to prohibit unauthorized access to Personally Identifiable~~  
7 ~~Information by any means.~~

8  
9 ~~7. Nothing in this subsection F shall be construed to prevent the City from obtaining~~  
10 ~~Personally Identifiable Information to the extent not prohibited by Section 631 of the~~  
11 ~~Communications Act, 47 U.S.C. § 551.~~

12 ~~8. Any aggrieved person may commence a civil action for damages for invasion of privacy~~  
13 ~~against any Cable Operator.~~

14  
15 ~~9. Destruction of Personally Identifiable Information. A Cable Operator shall destroy,~~  
16 ~~within ninety (90) days, any Personally Identifiable Information if the Personally Identifiable~~  
17 ~~Information is no longer Necessary for the purpose for which it was collected and there are no~~  
18 ~~pending requests or orders for access to such Personally Identifiable Information under~~  
19 ~~subsection 3 of this subsection, pursuant to a court order, or pursuant to Section 631 of the~~  
20 ~~Communications Act, 47 U.S.C. § 551.~~

21  
22 ~~10. Rulemaking. The Office of Cable Communications shall adopt such rules as it deems~~  
23 ~~necessary or advisable to implement these privacy provisions of the Customer Cable Bill of~~  
24 ~~Rights.))~~

1 F. Multiple dwelling unit buildings. The grantee shall ensure that rates charged by the  
2 grantee to residents of multiple dwelling unit buildings do not exceed the charges paid by  
3 residents of single family homes. The grantee may not condition provision of services to multiple  
4 dwelling unit buildings on any requirement not imposed on other subscribers, except as expressly  
5 permitted in the franchise. The grantee may not condition provision of services to multiple  
6 dwelling unit buildings on an exclusive service agreement with grantee. The grantee may offer a  
7 building owner the option of a long-term agreement in return for installation of internal wiring or  
8 other telecommunications improvements unique to the building, but the grantee must offer the  
9 alternative of a no term agreement to building owners who wish to contract directly for  
10 installation by a contractor approved by the grantee and in accordance with the grantee's  
11 generally applicable technical standards. The foregoing does not restrict, condition, or inhibit the  
12 grantee's ability to negotiate longer-term right of entry agreements prior to offering service to  
13 multiple unit building residents for the purpose of maintaining grantee's on-site signal and  
14 facilities. For purposes of this subsection 21.60.820.F, a "right of entry agreement" means an  
15 agreement that permits the grantee access to the building to extend its distribution cable from the  
16 grantee's cable system in the right-of-way or public easement to the utility closet or other  
17 demarcation point in the multiple unit building.

18  
19  
20  
21 G. Safety. The ~~((Cable Operator))~~ grantee shall install and locate its facilities, ~~((Cable~~  
22 System)) cable system, and equipment in compliance with all federal, state, local, and company  
23 safety standards, and in such manner as shall not unduly interfere with or endanger persons or  
24 property. ~~((Whenever))~~ If the ~~((Cable Operator))~~ grantee receives notice that an unsafe condition  
25 exists with respect to its equipment, the ~~((Cable Operator))~~ grantee shall investigate such  
26

1 condition immediately, and shall take such measures as are necessary to remove or eliminate any  
2 unsafe condition.

3 H. Satisfaction ~~((Guaranteed))~~ guaranteed. The ~~((Cable Operator))~~ grantee shall guarantee  
4 ~~((Customer))~~ customer satisfaction for every ~~((Customer))~~ customer who requests new  
5 installation of ~~((Cable Service))~~ cable service, video, or interactive television or ~~((Cable modem~~  
6 ~~Internet or))~~ adds any additional ~~((programming))~~ cable service to the ~~((Customer's))~~ customer's  
7 cable subscription. Any such ~~((Customer))~~ customer who adds expanded basic or other higher  
8 tier of video service ~~((;))~~ or interactive television ~~((; or cable modem service))~~ to ~~((his or her))~~ the  
9 customer's cable subscription ~~((account;))~~ and then requests discontinuation of such upgraded  
10 service within ~~((thirty (30)))~~ 30 days due to dissatisfaction with the service shall receive ~~((a))~~ an  
11 account credit ~~((to his/her account))~~ in an amount equal to the pro rata charge for the remaining  
12 days of service following the request to ~~((disconnect))~~ discontinue the service. If a ~~((Customer))~~  
13 customer subscribes to a service under a promotion that provides free service and chooses to  
14 ~~((disconnect))~~ discontinue the service during the promotion window, there shall be no charge of  
15 any kind for the service or for ~~((disconnection))~~ discontinuing ~~((of))~~ the service.

16 Section 76. A new Section 21.60.825 of the Seattle Municipal Code is added as follows:  
17

18 **21.60.825 Cable customer privacy**  
19

20 In addition to complying with the requirements in this Section 21.60.825, a grantee shall  
21 fully comply with all obligations under 47 U.S.C. § 551.  
22

23 A. Definitions.

24 For purposes of this Section 21.60.825:

25 "Affiliate" means any person or entity that is owned or controlled by, or under common  
26

ownership or control with, a grantee, and provides any cable service or other service.

"Necessary" means required or indispensable.

"Non-cable-related purpose" means any purpose that is not necessary to render, or conduct a legitimate business activity related to, a cable service or other service provided by the grantee to a customer. Market research, telemarketing, and other marketing of services or products are considered non-cable-related purposes.

"Personally identifiable information" means specific information about a customer, including, but not limited to, a customer's (a) login information, (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, (h) web browsing activities, or (i) any other personal or private information. "Personally identifiable information" does not mean aggregate information about customers that does not identify particular persons.

B. Collection and use of personally identifiable information.

1. A grantee shall not use the cable system to collect, record, 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: (a) used to detect unauthorized reception of cable communications, or (b) necessary to render a cable service or other service provided by the grantee to the customer.

2. A grantee shall take such actions as are necessary to prevent any affiliate from using the facilities of the grantee 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 the computer or other equipment of a customer



1 (regardless of whether such equipment is owned or leased by the customer or provided by a  
2 grantee) or on any of the facilities of the grantee that are used in the provision of cable service.

3 This subsection 21.60.825.B.2 does not prohibit an affiliate from obtaining access to personally  
4 identifiable information to the extent otherwise permitted by this Section 21.60.825.

5         3.         A grantee shall take such actions as are reasonably necessary to prevent a person  
6 or entity (other than affiliates) from using the facilities of the grantee in any manner, including,  
7 but not limited to, sending data or other signals through such facilities, to the extent such use will  
8 permit such person or entity unauthorized access to personally identifiable information on the  
9 computer or other equipment of a customer (regardless of whether such equipment is owned or  
10 leased by the customer or provided by a grantee) or on any of the facilities of the grantee that are  
11 used in the provision of cable service.  
12

13  
14 C.         Disclosure of personally identifiable information. A grantee shall not disclose personally  
15 identifiable information without the prior affirmative written or electronic consent of the  
16 customer, except as follows:

17         1.         A grantee may disclose for a non-cable-related purpose the name and address of a  
18 customer to any general programming tiers of service and other categories of cable and other  
19 service provided by the grantee if the grantee has provided the customer the opportunity to  
20 prohibit or limit such disclosure in accordance with this Section 21.60.825 and 47 U.S.C. § 551,  
21 and such disclosure does not directly or indirectly disclose:  
22

23                 a.         A customer's extent of viewing of a cable service or other service provided  
24 by the grantee;

25                 b.         The extent of any other use by a customer of a cable service or other  
26

1 service provided by the grantee, including, but not limited to, a disclosure of the particular  
2 viewing selections by a person subscribing to a cable service or other service, or the particular  
3 web sites visited by a customer to non-cable service (i.e., a grantee may only disclose the fact  
4 that a person subscribes to non-cable service);

5 c. The nature of any transactions made by a customer over the cable system  
6 of the grantee; or

7 d. The nature of programming or sites that a customer subscribes to or views  
8 (i.e., a grantee may only disclose the fact that a person subscribes to a general tier of service or a  
9 package of channels with the same type of programming).  
10

11 2. A minimum of 30 days before making any disclosure of personally identifiable  
12 information of any customer as provided in this subsection 21.60.825.C, the grantee shall notify  
13 in writing the Office of Cable Communications and each customer about which the grantee  
14 intends to disclose information of the specific information that will be disclosed, to whom it will  
15 be disclosed, and notice of the customer's right to prohibit the disclosure of such information for  
16 non-cable-related purposes. The notice to customers may be included with or made a part of the  
17 customer's monthly bill for cable service or other service or may be made by separate mailed  
18 notice. Each time that this notice is given to a customer, the grantee also shall provide the  
19 customer with an opportunity to prohibit the disclosure of information in the future. Such  
20 opportunity shall be given in one of the following forms: a toll-free number that the customer  
21 may call, a website option, or such other equivalent methods as may be approved by the Office  
22 of Cable Communications.  
23

24 3. Additionally, within 45 days after each disclosure of personally identifiable  
25  
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1 information of any customer as provided in this subsection 21.60.825.C, the grantee shall notify  
2 in writing the Office of Cable Communications and each customer about which the grantee has  
3 disclosed information of the specific information that has been disclosed, to whom it has been  
4 disclosed, and notice of the customer's right to prohibit the disclosure of such information for  
5 non-cable-related purposes. The notice to customers may be included with or made a part of the  
6 customer's monthly bill for cable service or other service or may be made by separate mailed  
7 notice. Each time that this notice is given to a customer, the grantee also shall provide the  
8 customer with an opportunity to prohibit the disclosure of information in the future. Such  
9 opportunity shall be given in one of the following forms: a toll-free telephone number that the  
10 customer may call; a website option; or such other equivalent methods as may be approved by  
11 the Office of Cable Communications.  
12

13  
14 4. A grantee may disclose personally identifiable information only to the extent that  
15 it is necessary to render, or conduct a legitimate business activity related to, a cable service or  
16 other service provided by the grantee to the customer.

17 5. To the extent required by federal law, a grantee may disclose personally  
18 identifiable information pursuant to a subpoena or valid court order authorizing such disclosure,  
19 or to a governmental entity.  
20

21 D. Access to information. Any personally identifiable information gathered and maintained  
22 by a grantee shall be made available for customer examination within 30 days of receiving a  
23 request by a customer to examine such information at the local offices of the grantee or other  
24 convenient place within the City designated by the grantee. Upon a reasonable showing by the  
25 customer that the information is inaccurate, a grantee shall correct such information.  
26

1 E. Privacy notice to customers.

2 1. A grantee shall annually mail a separate, written privacy statement to customers  
3 consistent with 47 U.S.C. § 551(a)(1) and shall provide a customer a copy of such statement at  
4 the time the grantee enters into an agreement with the customer to provide cable service or other  
5 service. The written notice shall be in a clear and conspicuous format and be printed in ten-point  
6 type or larger.

7  
8 2. In the statement required by subsection 21.60.825.E.1, the grantee shall state  
9 substantially the following regarding the disclosure of customer information: "Unless a customer  
10 affirmatively consents electronically or in writing to the disclosure of personally identifiable  
11 information, any disclosure of personally identifiable information for purposes other than to the  
12 extent necessary to render, or conduct a legitimate business activity related to, a cable service or  
13 other service, is limited to:

14  
15 a. Disclosure pursuant to a subpoena or valid court order authorizing such  
16 disclosure; or to a governmental entity, but only to the extent required by applicable federal law;  
17 or

18 b. Disclosure of the name and address of a customer to any general  
19 programming tiers of service and other categories of cable and other services provided by the  
20 grantee that does not directly or indirectly disclose:

21  
22 1) A customer's extent of viewing of a cable service or other service  
23 provided by the grantee,

24 2) The extent of any other use by a customer of a cable service or  
25 other service provided by the grantee, including, but not limited to, a disclosure of the particular  
26

1 viewing selections by a person subscribing to a cable service or other service, or the particular  
2 web sites visited by a customer of non-cable service (i.e., a grantee may only disclose the fact  
3 that a person subscribes to non-cable service),

4                   3)     The nature of any transactions made by a customer over the cable  
5 system, or

6                   4)     The nature of programming or sites that a customer subscribes to  
7 or views (i.e., a grantee may only disclose the fact that a person subscribes to a general tier of  
8 service, or a package of channels with the same type of programming).  
9

10           3.       The statement shall also inform the customers of their right to prohibit the  
11 disclosure of their names and addresses in accordance with subsection 21.60.825.C for non-  
12 cable-related purposes. This opportunity will be presented in the form of a toll-free telephone  
13 number or website, provided by the grantee with the privacy notice or other manner acceptable to  
14 the Office of Cable Communications. If a customer exercises the customer's right to prohibit the  
15 disclosure of name and address as provided in subsection 21.60.825.C or this subsection  
16 21.60.825.E, such prohibition against disclosure shall remain in effect permanently, unless the  
17 customer subsequently notifies the grantee in writing that the customer wishes to permit the  
18 grantee to disclose the customer's name and address.  
19

20  
21 F.     Privacy reporting requirements. The grantee shall provide a semi-annual report to the  
22 City summarizing:

23           1.       The type of personally identifiable information that was actually collected or  
24 disclosed during the reporting period, including:

25                   a.     For each type of personally identifiable information collected or disclosed,  
26

1 a statement sufficient to demonstrate that the personally identifiable information collected or  
2 disclosed was: 1) collected or disclosed only to the extent necessary to render, or conduct a  
3 legitimate business activity related to, a cable service or other service provided by the grantee; 2)  
4 used only to the extent necessary to detect unauthorized reception of cable service; 3) disclosed  
5 pursuant to a subpoena or valid court order or to a governmental entity to the extent required by  
6 federal law; 4) names and addresses disclosed in compliance with subsection 21.60.825.C.1; or  
7  
8 5) a disclosure of personally identifiable information of particular subscribers, but only to the  
9 extent affirmatively consented to by such subscribers in writing or electronically; and

10 b. The categories of all entities to whom such personally identifiable  
11 information was disclosed, including, but not limited to, cable installation and maintenance  
12 contractors, direct mail vendors, telemarketing companies, print/mail houses, promotional  
13 service companies, billing vendors, and account collection companies; and

14  
15 2. Measures that have been taken, or could be taken, to prevent the unauthorized  
16 access to personally identifiable information by a person other than the customer or the grantee,  
17 including, among other things, a description of the technology that is or could be applied by the  
18 grantee to prohibit unauthorized access to personally identifiable information by any means.

19  
20 G. Nothing in this Section 21.60.825 shall prevent the City from obtaining personally  
21 identifiable information to the extent not prohibited by 47 U.S.C. § 551.

22 H. The grantee shall provide the names of the entities described in subsection  
23 21.60.825.F.1.b to whom personally identifiable information was disclosed, within 30 days of  
24 receiving a request for such names from the City. However, the grantee need not provide the  
25 name of any court or governmental entity to which such disclosure was made if such disclosure  
26

would be inconsistent with applicable federal law.

I. Any aggrieved person may begin a civil action for damages for invasion of privacy against any grantee.

J. Destruction of personally identifiable information. A grantee shall destroy, within 90 days, any personally identifiable information if the personally identifiable 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 personally identifiable information under this Section 21.60.825, pursuant to a court order, or pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 551.

K. Rulemaking. The Office of Cable Communications shall adopt such rules and regulations as it deems necessary or advisable to implement this Section 21.60.825.

Section 77. Section 21.60.830 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance 120775, is amended as follows:

**21.60.830 ((-)) Complaint procedure ((-))**

A. Complaints to the ~~((Cable Operator))~~ grantee. The ~~((Cable Operator))~~ grantee shall, consistent with the obligations of this Chapter 21.60 including the minimum credit amounts set forth in Section 21.60.850, establish written procedures for receiving, acting upon, and resolving ~~((Customer Complaints))~~ customer complaints ((-)) and crediting ~~((Customer))~~ customer accounts in accordance with company policies ~~((or Schedule A, "Credits to Customers," herein, whichever is greater))~~, and shall publicize such procedures ~~((through printed documents))~~ at the ~~((Cable Operator's))~~ grantee's sole expense. ~~((For violations of the ordinance codified in Sections 21.60.800 through 21.60.830, credits shall be made to the Customer's account. In the event that the Customer no longer receives Cable Service or Other Services from the Cable Operator, the~~

1 ~~Cable Operator shall issue a check to the Customer within thirty (30) days of the resolution of~~  
2 ~~the Complaint.~~

3 ~~Said))~~

4 1. The written procedures shall prescribe a simple process by which any  
5 ~~((Customer))~~ customer may submit a ~~((Complaint))~~ complaint in person or by telephone,  
6 electronic mail, or in ~~((writing))~~ other forms to the ~~((Cable Operator))~~ grantee regarding an  
7 alleged violation of any provision of these ~~((Customer Service Standards))~~ customer service  
8 standards, any terms or conditions of the ~~((Customer's))~~ customer's contract with the ~~((Cable~~  
9 ~~Operator))~~ grantee, or reasonable business practices.

10  
11 2. The ~~((Cable Operator))~~ grantee will make best efforts to resolve ~~((Customer))~~  
12 customer concerns or ~~((Complaints))~~ complaints at the first contact. The City will make best  
13 efforts to redirect to the ~~((Cable Operator))~~ grantee all ~~((Cable Customers))~~ cable customers who  
14 have contacted the City first with a ~~((Cable))~~ cable or ~~((Other Service))~~ other service inquiry,  
15 concern, or ~~((Complaint))~~ complaint relating to cable services. Within ~~((fifteen (15) calendar))~~ 15  
16 days after receiving a ~~((Complaint))~~ complaint, the ~~((Cable Operator))~~ grantee shall notify the  
17 ~~((Customer))~~ customer of the results of its investigation and its proposed action or credit. If the  
18 ~~((Complaint))~~ complaint is in writing, a written response shall be sent to the ~~((Customer))~~  
19 customer within two ~~((2))~~ weeks of receipt.

20  
21 3. The ~~((Cable Operator))~~ grantee shall also notify the ~~((Customer))~~ customer of the  
22 ~~((Customer's))~~ customer's right to file a ~~((Complaint))~~ complaint with the City in the event the  
23 ~~((Customer))~~ customer is dissatisfied with the ~~((Cable Operator's))~~ grantee's decision ~~((,))~~ and  
24 shall explain the necessary procedures for filing such ~~((Complaint))~~ complaint with the City.  
25  
26



1           4. For violations of this Subchapter II, credits shall be made to the customer's  
2 account in the amounts set forth in Section 21.60.850, at a minimum, or in greater amounts  
3 should the grantee choose to exceed the minimum credit. If the customer no longer receives  
4 cable service from the grantee, but registered a complaint while a subscriber of grantee's cable  
5 services, the grantee shall issue a check to the customer within 30 days of the resolution of the  
6 complaint.

7           5. ~~The ((Cable Operator's)) grantee's ((Complaint)) complaint~~ procedures shall be  
8 ~~((filed with)) sent to the City ((prior to)) before~~ implementation.

9 B. Security ~~((Fund)) fund.~~ Within ~~((thirty (30))) 30~~ days of the effective date of ~~((these~~  
10 ~~Standards or)) a renewed franchise, and within 12 months of the effective date of ((any)) a new~~  
11 ~~franchise ((granted by)), the ((City, whichever occurs first, the Cable Operator)) grantee shall~~  
12 ~~deposit with an escrow agent approved by the City a security ((deposit)) fund of ((fifty cents~~  
13 ~~(\$.50)) \$ .50 per ((Customer)) customer not to exceed \$20,000. ((The escrowed funds shall~~  
14 ~~constitute the security funds for ensuring compliance with these standards for the benefit of the~~  
15 ~~City and Customers.)) These escrowed funds shall be reviewed and maintained annually by the~~  
16 ~~((Cable Operator)) grantee at the level of ((fifty cents (\$ .50)) \$ .50 per ((Customer)) customer~~  
17 ~~not to exceed \$20,000 ((per year-)) and ((will)) be replenished within ((fourteen (14))) 14 days~~  
18 ~~((in the event that)) if amounts greater than ten ((10)) percent of the required funds are~~  
19 ~~withdrawn by the Office of Cable Communications.~~

20           1. ~~The security fund ((shall)) serves~~ as security for the payment of any penalties,  
21 ~~fees, charges, or credits as provided for ((herein)) under this Subchapter II and for the grantee's~~  
22

1 performance ~~((by the Cable Operator))~~ of all its obligations under these ~~((Customer Service~~  
2 ~~Standards))~~ customer service standards.

3 2. \_\_\_\_ The rights reserved to the City with respect to the security fund are in addition to  
4 all other rights of the City, whether reserved by any applicable franchise agreement or authorized  
5 by law, and no action, proceeding or exercise of a right with respect to the security fund ~~((same~~  
6 ~~shall))~~ in any way affects ~~((s))~~ or diminishes ~~((s))~~ any other right the City may otherwise have.

7  
8 C. Complaints to the City. Any ~~((Customer))~~ customer who is dissatisfied with any proposed  
9 disposition of a ~~((Complaint))~~ complaint by a ~~((Cable Operator))~~ grantee or who has not received  
10 a decision within the required ~~((fifteen (15)))~~ 15-day period ~~((shall be))~~ is entitled to have the  
11 ~~((Complaint))~~ complaint reviewed by the City.

12 1. \_\_\_\_ The ~~((Customer))~~ customer may initiate the review either by calling the City or by  
13 ~~((filing))~~ sending a written ~~((Complaint))~~ complaint, by letter or in electronic form, together with  
14 the ~~((Cable Operator's))~~ grantee's written decision, if any, ~~((with))~~ to the City.

15  
16 2. \_\_\_\_ The ~~((Customer))~~ customer shall make such ~~((filing and))~~ a request for review  
17 ~~((notification))~~ within ~~((twenty (20)))~~ 20 days of receipt of the ~~((Cable Operator's))~~ grantee's  
18 decision or, if no decision has been provided, within ~~((thirty (30)))~~ 30 days after ~~((filing))~~  
19 submitting the original ~~((Complaint))~~ complaint to ~~((with))~~ the ~~((Cable Operator))~~ grantee.

20  
21 3. \_\_\_\_ If the City decides that further evidence is warranted, the City may require the  
22 ~~((Cable Operator))~~ grantee and the ~~((Customer))~~ customer to submit, within ten ~~((40))~~ days of  
23 notice thereof, a written statement of the facts and arguments in support of their respective  
24 positions.

1           4. \_\_\_\_\_ The ~~((Cable Operator))~~ grantee and the ~~((Customer))~~ customer shall produce any  
2 additional evidence, including any reports from the ~~((Cable Operator))~~ grantee, ~~((which))~~ that the  
3 City may deem necessary to an understanding and determination of the ~~((Complaint))~~ complaint.

4           5. \_\_\_\_\_ The City shall issue a determination within ~~((fifteen (15)))~~ 15 days after  
5 examining the materials submitted, setting forth the basis for its determination.

6           6. \_\_\_\_\_ The City may extend these time limits for reasonable cause and may intercede and  
7 attempt to negotiate an informal resolution.

8           7. \_\_\_\_\_ If the City determines that the ~~((Customer's Complaint))~~ customer's complaint is  
9 valid and that the ~~((Cable Operator))~~ grantee did not provide ~~((the complaining Customer with))~~  
10 the proper solution and/or credit, the City may reverse any decision of the ~~((Cable Operator))~~  
11 grantee in the matter and/or require the ~~((Cable Operator))~~ grantee to grant a specific solution, as  
12 determined by the City in its sole discretion, and/or any credit provided for in these ~~((Standards))~~  
13 standards; or the City may provide the ~~((Customer))~~ customer with the amount of the credit (as  
14 set forth in ~~((Schedule A))~~ Section 21.60.850) by means of a withdrawal from the security fund.

15 ~~((D. — Verification of Compliance. The Cable Operator shall maintain, in a manner consistent  
16 with the privacy rights of Customers, an accurate an comprehensive file of (1) any and all  
17 Complaints regarding the Cable System or the Cable Operator's operation of the Cable System,  
18 by number and type and their disposition; (2) service request, identifying the number and nature  
19 of the requests and their disposition; (3) service interruptions and their disposition; (4) required  
20 Cable Operator contacts with Customers after installation, and (5) Customer privacy information  
21 as per SMC Section 21.60.820 F6.~~

1 Reports detailing compliance with the standards herein shall be provided by the Cable Company  
2 on a quarterly basis, within thirty (30) days of the end of the quarter and shall be in a format  
3 consistent with the output capabilities of a Cable Operator's call tracking technology sufficient  
4 for the City to monitor the Cable Customer Bill of Rights. If the Cable Operator fails to provide  
5 such reports on a timely basis, or if they are incomplete, monetary sanctions of up to five  
6 hundred dollars (\$500.00) for the first quarter, up to one thousand dollars (\$1000.00) for the  
7 second consecutive quarter of noncompliance, up to one thousand five hundred dollars  
8 (\$1500.00) for the third consecutive quarter of noncompliance and up to two thousand  
9 (\$2,000.00) for all subsequent consecutive non-complaint quarters may be imposed to encourage  
10 compliance. The Cable Operator shall permit the City to review and audit the information at any  
11 time during Normal Business Hours upon reasonable notice.))

12 ((E.)) D. Overall ((Quality of Service)) quality of service. The City may evaluate the overall  
13 quality of ((Customer)) customer service provided by the ((Cable Operator)) grantee to  
14 ((Customers)) customers, in conjunction with any performance review provided for in the  
15 franchise agreement; or at any other time, at its sole discretion, based on the number of  
16 ((Customer Complaints)) customer complaints received directly by the City or reported by the  
17 ((Cable Operator)) grantee in its quarterly reports.

18 ((F.)) E. Procedure for ((Remedying Violations)) remedying violations. If the City has reason to  
19 believe that the ((Cable Operator)) grantee has failed to comply with any of these ((Standards))  
20 standards((;)) or has failed to perform in a timely manner, the City may require in writing that the  
21 ((Cable Operator)) grantee remedy the alleged noncompliance and provide an opportunity to  
22 cure. If the alleged noncompliance is denied or not cured to the satisfaction of the City, the City  
23

1 may impose monetary sanctions or follow other procedures set forth in individual franchise  
2 agreements.

3 ~~((G.))~~ F. Notice.

4 1. \_\_\_\_\_ At the City's request, the ~~((Cable Operator))~~ grantee shall include on its billing  
5 statement, in a clear and conspicuous manner, information on how to contact the City's Office of  
6 Cable Communications. At the City's discretion, such information may include, but shall not be  
7 limited to, the address, telephone number, and e-mail address of the Office of Cable  
8 Communications.  
9

10 2. \_\_\_\_\_ At least annually, the ~~((Cable Operator))~~ grantee shall notify its ~~((Customers))~~  
11 customers~~((through a bill insert))~~ of the existence, location and function of the City's Office of  
12 Cable Communications ~~((;))~~ and shall provide, in a form provided by or approved by the City, a  
13 summary of ~~((Cable Customer Bill of Rights codified in this subchapter and))~~ this Subchapter II  
14 and the remedies and procedures available to its ~~((Customers))~~ customers. ~~((Cable modem~~  
15 ~~Internet Customers may receive such notification via e-mail if the Customer does not receive a~~  
16 ~~written bill.))~~  
17

18 G. Notification of Complaints. If the City receives customer service complaints regarding  
19 other services provided by the grantee, such as the use or connection of non-cable services, the  
20 City will notify the grantee of such complaints. If the grantee demonstrates an egregious pattern  
21 of failing to resolve such complaints with its customers, the City will forward the complaints to  
22 the appropriate state or federal agency.  
23

24  
25 ~~**((Schedule A - Credits to Customers**~~

Standards of Customer Service	Minimum Compensation for Noncompliance
<b>Courtesy</b>	
All Cable Operator employees shall be friendly, knowledgeable and helpful and provide timely services.	\$5.00 credit
<b>Responsiveness</b>	
<b>Guaranteed Seven (7) Day Residential Installation and Service</b>	
Cable Operators shall complete Standard Installations and service requested by a Customer within seven (7) business days after order has been placed.	Free installation, or one (1) month's basic service, if the fee has been waived for promotional reasons; for a service violation, \$10.00 credit
Cable Operator shall provide Customers seeking Non-Standard Installations with a total installation cost estimate and an estimated date of completion.	Free installation, or one (1) month's basic service, if the fee has been waived for promotional reasons
All underground cable drops shall be buried no less than twelve (12) inches deep and work shall be completed in no more than three (3) calendar weeks from the installation.	\$5.00 credit
<b>Residential Installation and Service Appointments</b>	
All Cable Operator Customers wanting installation of cable or service may choose any available four (4) hour time block during	\$10.00 credit

1 Normal Business Hours:	
2 The Cable Operator may not cancel an 3 appointment with a Customer after 5:00 p.m. 4 on the day before the scheduled appointment.	\$10.00 credit or the guarantee offered by the Cable Operator, whichever is greater
5 If a Cable Operator cannot make an 6 appointment for any reason, the Cable 7 Operator shall contact the Customer before 8 the end of the scheduled appointment and 9 reschedule at the convenience of the 10 Customer.	\$10.00 credit or the guarantee offered by the Cable Operator, whichever is greater
11 If a Cable Operator technician arrives within 12 the agreed upon time, and the Customer is 13 absent, the technician shall leave written 14 notification of arrival and return time, and the 15 Cable Operator shall contact the Customer 16 within forty eight (48) hours to reschedule.	\$5.00 credit if the Customer is not contacted within forty eight (48) hours
<b>18 Outages and Service Interruptions</b>	
19 System outages resulting from Cable Operator 20 equipment failure affecting five (5) or more 21 Customers, the Cable Operator shall initiate 22 repairs within two (2) hours after the third 23 Customer call is received.	One (1) day's free service for each day in which there is an outage for each Customer who reports an outage
24 Repairs shall be initiated for all other 25 interruptions resulting from Cable Operator 26	One (1) day's free service for each day in which there is an outage for each Customer

<p>1 equipment failure within twenty-four (24)        2 hours.</p>	<p>who reports an outage</p>
<p>3 Initiate repairs for all service outages or        4 interruptions beyond the control of Cable        5 Operators within twenty-four (24) hours after        6 the Cable Operator regains control.</p>	<p>One (1) day's free service for each day in        which there is an outage for each Customer        who reports an outage</p>
<p>7 <b>TV Reception Difficulties and Cable Modem Internet Connection</b></p>	
<p>9 All Cable Operators shall make repairs        10 promptly, and interrupt service only for good        11 cause, during periods of minimum use of the        12 system, and for no more than twenty-four (24)        13 hours, except where unavoidable.</p>	<p>One (1) day's free service for each day in        which there is an outage for each Customer        who reports an outage</p>
<p>14 All Cable Operators shall provide clear        15 television reception that meets or exceeds        16 FCC technical standards.</p>	<p>One (1) day's free service for each day in        which reception falls below FCC standards for        Customers who report reception that does not        meet FCC standards</p>
<p>18 All Cable Operators shall meet all        19 specifications advertised for Internet services</p>	<p>One (1) day's free service for each day in        which any advertised specification is not met        for affected Customers</p>
<p>21 If a Customer experiences poor video or audio        22 reception due to Cable Operator's equipment,        23 the Cable Operator shall repair the problem        24 no later than the next day, unless otherwise        25 agreed to with the Customer.</p>	<p>One (1) day's free service for each day after        the Customer has called and the problem        remains uncorrected</p>



<b>Problem Resolution</b>	
All Cable Operators Customer Service Representatives shall be able to provide credit, waive fees, schedule appointments and change billing cycles. Any difficulties that cannot be resolved by the Customer Service Representatives shall be referred to a supervisor who shall make best efforts to contact the Customer within twenty four (24) hours.	\$5.00 credit
In the case of difficulties that cannot be resolved, the supervisor shall make best efforts to 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.	\$5.00 credit
<b>Billing, Credits and Refunds</b>	
Customers shall receive a clear and concise bill monthly. The Cable Operator shall respond to a Customer's billing inquiry made by telephone or e-mail within forty eight (48) hours, and to a written billing inquiry within two (2) weeks of receipt of the inquiry.	\$5.00 credit

<p>1 <del>All Cable Operators shall allow thirty (30)</del> 2 <del>days from the beginning date of the applicable</del> 3 <del>billing cycle before imposing an</del> 4 <del>administrative fee. If the bill is not paid</del> 5 <del>within forty five (45) days from the beginning</del> 6 <del>date of the applicable service period, the</del> 7 <del>Cable Operator may perform a "soft"</del> 8 <del>disconnect.</del></p>	<p>\$5.00 credit</p>
<p>9 <del>If a Customer's bill is not paid within fifty-</del> 10 <del>two (52) days of the beginning date of the</del> 11 <del>applicable service period, the Cable Operator</del> 12 <del>may disconnect the Customer's service, but</del> 13 <del>only upon showing that it has provided ten</del> 14 <del>(10) day's notice to the Customer that such</del> 15 <del>disconnect may result.</del></p>	<p>\$5.00 credit</p>
<p>16 <del>If a Customer requests disconnection of any</del> 17 <del>or all services, billing for affected services</del> 18 <del>shall end on the same day, or on the future</del> 19 <del>date for which the disconnect is ordered. All</del> 20 <del>Cable Operators shall issue a credit or refund</del> 21 <del>within fifteen (15) business days after the</del> 22 <del>close of the Customer's billing cycle</del> 23 <del>following the return of the equipment and</del> 24 <del>request for disconnection.</del></p>	<p>\$5.00 credit or refund if the Customer's account has closed</p>

<p>1 Deposits shall accrue interest at a fair market        2 rate. Within ten (10) days after termination of        3 service for any reason, the Cable Operator        4 shall repay any deposit with a statement        5 showing accrued interest to the Customer, less        6 any sums owed to the Cable Operator.</p>	<p>\$5.00 credit or refund if the Customer's        account has closed</p>
<p>7 <b>Respectful Treatment of Property</b></p>	
<p>8 Cable Operators shall replace any trees or        9 shrubs damaged during any installation or        10 repair</p>	<p>\$10.00 credit plus any additional repairs or        reimbursement if the Cable Operator fails to        replace or repair the damage</p>
<p>12 Cable Operators shall restore any damage        13 property to the same condition it was before        14 damage occurred.</p>	<p>\$10.00 credit plus any additional repairs or        reimbursement if the Cable Operator fails to        replace or repair the damaged property</p>
<p>15 Cable Operators will give notice to property        16 owners before entering premises, specifying        17 the work to be done. In the event of an        18 emergency, the Cable Operator shall attempt        19 to contact the property owner or legal tenant        20 in person, and shall leave a door hanger notice        21 in the event personal contact is not made.</p>	<p>\$10.00 credit if the Cable Operator fails to        provide notice or enters premises without        permission, plus any additional repairs or        reimbursement</p>
<p>22 All Cable Operator personnel shall clean up        23 debris caused by the Cable Operator's        24 activities at a work site and properly dispose        25 of cable materials.</p>	<p>\$10.00 credit plus cleanup and disposal of        debris</p>

**Services for Customers With Disabilities**

All Cable Operators will deliver and pick up converters at the home of Customers with disabilities. In the case of a malfunctioning converter, the technician shall provide another converter, hook it up and ensure that it is working properly, and shall return the defective converter to the Cable Operator.

\$5.00 credit

All Cable Operators will provide TDD/TYY service through trained operators who can provide any assistance regularly available from a CSR at no charge.

\$5.00 credit

Cable Operators will install, at no charge, any closed captioning device purchased by a hearing-impaired Customer.

\$5.00 credit

Cable Operators will provide free use of a converter remote control unit to mobility-impaired Customers.

\$5.00 credit and provision of remote control unit

**Customer Information**

Upon installation, or at a Customer's request, Cable Operators will provide the following requested information and credit information:

Provide Customer with the requested information. \$5.00 credit for failure to provide

A. Products and services offered;

1	<del>B. Complete range of service options and</del>	
2	<del>prices;</del>	
3	<del>C. Customer service standards;</del>	
4	<del>D. Instruction on use of cable TV, interactive</del>	
5	<del>TV, Internet service, remote and on standard</del>	
6	<del>VCR hookups;</del>	
7		
8	<del>E. Billing, collection and disconnect policies;</del>	
9	<del>F. Customer privacy requirements;</del>	
10	<del>G. Complaint procedure, containing the City</del>	
11	<del>or the designated agency to whom the</del>	
12	<del>Complaints should be addressed;</del>	
13	<del>H. Use and availability of A/B switch;</del>	
14		
15	<del>I. Use and availability of parental</del>	
16	<del>control/lockout device;</del>	
17	<del>J. Special services for Customers with visual,</del>	
18	<del>hearing or mobility disabilities;</del>	
19	<del>K. Days, times of operation, and locations of</del>	
20	<del>the service centers.</del>	
21	<del>Cable Operators shall provide Customers and</del>	<del>\$5.00 credit for each affected Customer</del>
22	<del>the City with written notification of any</del>	
23	<del>change in rates, programming, or channels at</del>	
24	<del>least thirty (30) days before the date of the</del>	
25	<del>change.</del>	
26		

27  
28

<p>1 <del>All officers, agents, and employees of the</del>        2 <del>Cable Operator, its contractors and</del>        3 <del>subcontractors in personal contact with the</del>        4 <del>Customer shall have a visible identification</del>        5 <del>card with their name and photograph and shall</del>        6 <del>orally identify themselves upon first contact</del>        7 <del>with the Customer.</del></p>	<p>\$5.00 credit</p>
<p>8 <del>All CSRs shall identify themselves orally to</del>        9 <del>callers immediately following the greeting</del>        10 <del>during each telephone contact with the public.</del></p>	<p>\$5.00 credit</p>
<p>11 <del>Each CSR, technician, or employee of the</del>        12 <del>Cable Operator in each contact with a</del>        13 <del>Customer shall state the estimated cost of the</del>        14 <del>service, repair, or installation orally prior to</del>        15 <del>delivery of the service or before any work is</del>        16 <del>performed, and shall provide the Customer</del>        17 <del>with an oral statement of the total charges</del>        18 <del>before terminating the telephone call or before</del>        19 <del>leaving the location at which the work was</del>        20 <del>performed.</del></p>	<p>\$5.00 credit</p>
<p>22 <b>Customers Privacy</b></p>	
<p>23 <del>For any violation of privacy per SMC</del>        24 <del>21.60.820 F of the Cable Customer Bill of</del>        25 <del>Rights</del></p>	<p><del>The Customer has the choice of either a check</del>  <del>for \$100.00, or a credit to Customer account in</del>  <del>the same amount.</del></p>

1 **Safety**

2 ~~When the Cable Operator receives notice that~~  
3 ~~an unsafe condition exists with respect to its~~  
4 ~~equipment, the Cable Operator shall~~  
5 ~~investigate such condition immediately, and~~  
6 ~~shall take such measures as are necessary to~~  
7 ~~remove or eliminate any unsafe condition.~~

At least Twenty five Dollars (\$25) a day for  
each twenty-four (24) hour delay in  
responding to Customer safety concerns

8 **Satisfaction Guaranteed**

9  
10 ~~Cable Operators will guarantee Customer~~  
11 ~~satisfaction for every Customer who requests~~  
12 ~~new or upgraded Cable Service or Other~~  
13 ~~Service.~~

The Customer will have the opportunity to  
cancel upgraded Cable Service or Other  
Service within thirty (30) days of receiving the  
service and receive a pro-rata credit in an  
amount equal to the pro-rata charge for the  
remaining days of service being disconnected  
if the Customer is dissatisfied with the service,  
except where a free promotion has been  
offered, there shall be no charge of any kind  
for the service or for disconnection of the  
service.))

21  
22 Section 78. A new Section 21.60.840 of the Seattle Municipal Code is added as follows:

23 **21.60.840 Verification of compliance by quarterly reporting form**

24  
25 The grantee shall maintain, in a manner consistent with the privacy rights of customers,

1 an accurate and comprehensive file of: (1) any and all complaints regarding the cable system or  
2 the grantee's operation of the cable system to provide cable service, by number and type and  
3 their disposition; (2) service requests, identifying the number and nature of the requests and their  
4 disposition; (3) service interruptions and their disposition; and (4) all telephone calls from  
5 customers to grantee, and their response times.

6           A.     The Office of Cable Communications will develop and provide a quarterly  
7 reporting form to monitor the grantee's compliance with this Subchapter II. The grantee shall  
8 complete the form and send it to the Office of Cable Communications on a quarterly basis,  
9 within 30 days of the end of the quarter. All data in the report shall reflect activity within an area  
10 that reasonably approximates the jurisdictional boundaries of King County, including the City.  
11 To measure the grantee's compliance with standards related to customer telephone response  
12 times, the report shall include, at a minimum, the following information from the grantee: 1) the  
13 total number of calls offered to a grantee; 2) the number of calls handled by the grantee's IVR  
14 within 30 seconds; 3) the total number of calls during which a customer requested, in any  
15 fashion, to speak with a CSR; 4) the total number of calls transferred to a CSR; 5) the total  
16 number of calls transferred to a CSR that were answered within 30 seconds; 6) the average wait  
17 time before a call to a CSR was answered; and 7) other information that may be requested by the  
18 Office of Cable Communications, and is retained by the grantee, to assess the overall level and  
19 effectiveness of grantee's customer service practices or is necessary to address customer service  
20 complaints. If calls abandoned by callers exceed five percent of calls handled, the grantee shall  
21 provide an explanation. Any grantee of a new franchise is not required to complete or send the  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28



1 report described in this Section 21.60.840 until 12 months after the effective date of the new  
2 franchise.

3 B. To determine whether the grantee has met the standard for CSR telephone  
4 response time, the Office of Cable Communications shall divide the total number of calls  
5 answered by a CSR within 30 seconds by the total number of calls transferred to a CSR. This  
6 quotient shall not reflect calls that are self-directed to the IVR only. Only telephone calls that  
7 result in a customer being directed to a CSR shall be included in this standard.  
8

9 C. If the grantee fails to provide such reports on a timely basis, or if they are  
10 incomplete, the City may impose monetary sanctions of up to \$1,000 for the first quarter, up to  
11 \$2,000 for the second consecutive quarter of noncompliance, up to \$2,500 for the third  
12 consecutive quarter of noncompliance, and up to \$3,000 for each subsequent consecutive non-  
13 compliant quarters to encourage compliance.  
14

15 D. The grantee shall permit the City to review and audit the information required  
16 under this Section 21.60.840 at any time during normal business hours upon reasonable notice.

17 Section 79. A new Section 21.60.850 of the Seattle Municipal Code is added as follows:

18 **21.60.850 Minimum compensation to customers**

19 For violations of this Subchapter II, the grantee shall credit the account of any customer who is  
20 either a current subscriber or a former customer awaiting a final billing statement in the amounts  
21 set forth below, at a minimum or, if the customer prefers, provide alternative compensation  
22 equivalent to the amounts set forth below, at a minimum:  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28

<b>Standards of customer service</b> <b>Location in SMC</b>	<b>Minimum compensation for grantee's noncompliance with Standards of customer service</b>
<b>Courtesy</b>	
All employees of the grantee shall be courteous, knowledgeable, and helpful. Grantee's employees, agents, contractors, and subcontractors shall provide accurate information and effective, timely, and satisfactory service in all contacts with customers. <b>21.60.820.A</b>	\$20 credit
<b>Accessibility</b>	
Telephone calls are answered by an IVR or a CSR within 30 seconds under normal operating conditions. If the call is answered by an IVR, the IVR must allow the option to speak with a CSR within no more than three minutes. If a customer has exercised the option to speak with a CSR, the customer shall be able to speak with a CSR within 30 seconds once the call is transferred during normal business hours. <b>21.60.820.B.4</b>	\$20 credit
<b>Responsiveness</b>	
The grantee shall complete standard installations and service repairs requested by a customer within seven business days after order has been placed, unless otherwise requested by the customer. <b>21.60.820.C.1</b>	Free installation, or one month's service if the installation fee has been waived for promotional reasons \$20 credit for a service repairs violation
If the customer requests a non-standard installation, or the grantee determines that a non-standard installation is required, the grantee shall provide the customer in advance with a total installation cost estimate and an estimated date of completion <b>21.60.820.C.1</b>	Free installation, or one month's service if the fee has been waived for promotional reasons
All underground cable drops shall be buried at a depth of no less than 12 inches and work shall be completed within three calendar weeks from the initial installation, or at a time mutually agreed upon between the grantee and customer. <b>21.60.820.C.1</b>	\$20 credit

<b>Standards of customer service</b> <b>Location in SMC</b>	<b>Minimum compensation for grantee's noncompliance with Standards of customer service</b>
All customers requesting installation of cable service or repair service to an existing installation may choose any available four-hour block of time during normal business hours. <b>21.60.820.C.2</b>	\$20 credit
The grantee may not cancel an appointment with a customer after 5 p.m. on the day before the scheduled appointment. <b>21.60.820.C.2</b>	\$20 credit, or the guarantee offered by the grantee, whichever is greater
If the customer is absent when the technician arrives, the technician shall verify the appointment with the technician's dispatcher by telephone while at the customer's door and leave written notification of timely arrival. The grantee shall keep a record of the notification. <b>21.60.820.C.2.b</b>	\$20 credit for failure to leave written notification of timely arrival
If a grantee representative fails to keep an installation or service appointment for any reason, the grantee will contact the customer before the end of the scheduled appointment and reschedule the appointment at a time convenient for the customer. <b>21.60.820.C.2.c</b>	\$20 credit, or the guarantee offered by the grantee, whichever is greater
In the event of a system outage ( <u>an outage is a service interruption that involves a loss or substantial impairment in reception on all channels for a period of one hour or more</u> ) resulting from grantee equipment failure affecting five or more customers, the grantee shall initiate repairs within two hours after the third customer calls to report the outage. <b>21.60.820.C.3a</b>	One day's free service for the day the customer reports the system outage and for each additional day the outage continues
All customers who call the grantee to report an outage shall receive credit for the entire day on which the outage occurred and for each additional day the outage continues. <b>21.60.820.C.3b</b>	One day's free service for the day the customer reports the system outage and for each additional day the outage continues
The grantee shall initiate repairs for all other service interruptions resulting from grantee equipment failure within 24 hours. <b>21.60.820.C.3.d</b>	One day's free service for each day in which there is a service interruption for each customer who reports a service interruption

<p><b>Standards of customer service</b>  <b>Location in SMC</b></p>	<p><b>Minimum compensation for grantee's noncompliance with Standards of customer service</b></p>
<p>The grantee shall initiate repairs to customer reported outages and service interruptions, for any cause beyond the control of the grantee, within 24 hours after the conditions beyond its control have been corrected.  <b>21.60.820.C.3.e</b></p>	<p>One day's free service for each day in which there is an outage or service interruption, after the conditions beyond grantee's control have been corrected, for each customer who reports an outage or service interruption</p>
<p>The signal quality provided by the grantee shall meet or exceed technical standards established by the FCC.  <b>21.60.820.C.4</b></p>	<p>One day's free service for each day the signal quality falls below FCC standards for customers who report reception that does not meet FCC standards</p>
<p>A planned outage that the grantee anticipates will last more than four hours shall be preceded by at least 24 hours' notice to affected customers and shall occur during periods of minimum use of the system, preferably between midnight and 6 a.m. Such notification of a planned outage may take the form of a door hanger, a message or insert into the monthly bill, or a telephone call and may be supplemented with on-screen messages announcing the planned outage.  <b>21.60.820.C.4.a</b></p>	<p>One day's free service for each day in which there is a planned outage that is not preceded by the notice required in the customer service standard, or does not occur during periods of minimum use of the system</p>
<p>If a customer experiences poor signal quality or reception, the grantee shall respond and repair the problem no later than the day following the customer call provided that the customer is available and the repair can be made within the allotted time.  <b>21.60.820.C.4.b</b></p>	<p>One day's free service for each day after the customer has called and the problem remains uncorrected</p>
<p>A grantee's CSRs shall have the authority to provide credit for interrupted service or any other credits listed in Section 21.60.850, to waive fees, to schedule service appointments, and to change billing cycles, if appropriate.  <b>21.60.820.C.5.a</b></p>	<p>\$20 credit</p>
<p>Any difficulties that cannot be resolved by the CSR shall be referred to the appropriate supervisor who shall make</p>	<p>\$20 credit</p>

<b>Standards of customer service</b> <b>Location in SMC</b>	<b>Minimum compensation for grantee's noncompliance with Standards of customer service</b>
best efforts to contact the customer within four hours and resolve the problem within 48 hours or within such other time frame as is reasonable. <b>21.60.820.C.5.b</b>	
Grantee will send customers a clear and concise bill every month. The grantee shall provide a due date on each bill that is at least 30 days from the beginning date of the applicable billing cycle. A monthly bill shall be issued to all customers regardless of balance due. The customer shall retain the option of whether to receive bills by mail or electronically. <b>21.60.820.C.6.a</b>	\$20 credit
The grantee shall respond to a <u>customer's</u> billing inquiry, general question, or comment made by telephone or e-mail within <u>48 hours during normal business hours</u> . The grantee shall respond in writing to a written <u>and mailed</u> billing inquiry, general question, or comment within two weeks of the <u>date</u> of receipt of the letter. <b>21.60.820.C.6.b</b>	\$20 credit
If a customer's service bill is not paid within 52 days of the beginning date of the applicable service period, the grantee may disconnect the customer's service, but only upon showing that it has provided ten days' notice to the customer that such disconnection may result. <b>21.60.820.C.6.c</b>	\$20 credit
If a customer requests cancellation of any or all services, billing for affected services shall end on the same day, or on the future date for which the cancellation is requested. After the requested cancellation date, the customer shall not be responsible for cable services delivered. The grantee must refund any credit balance owed the customer, less any owed or disputed amounts, within 15 business days after the close of the customer's billing cycle following the return of the equipment and request for cancellation. <b>21.60.820.C.6.d</b>	\$20 credit (or refund if the customer's account has closed)
Deposits shall accrue interest at a fair market rate. Within 15 business days after cancellation of service, the grantee	\$20 credit (or refund if the customer's account has

<p><b>Standards of customer service</b>  <b>Location in SMC</b></p>	<p><b>Minimum compensation for grantee's noncompliance with Standards of customer service</b></p>
<p>shall repay any deposit with a statement showing accrued interest to the customer, less any sums owed to the grantee.  <b>21.60.820.C.6.e</b></p>	<p>closed)</p>
<p>Trees, shrubs, and other landscaping on a customer's property that are damaged by the grantee, or any employee or authorized agent, during installation or construction for the customer or in the process of serving adjacent structures, shall be restored to their prior condition or replaced. Trees and shrubs shall not be removed without the prior permission of the owner of the property on which they are located.  <b>21.60.820.C.7.a</b></p>	<p>\$50 credit plus any additional repairs or reimbursement if the grantee fails to replace or repair the damage</p>
<p>The grantee shall, at its own cost and expense, and in a manner approved by the property owner and the City, restore any property to as good condition as before the work causing such disturbance was initiated. The grantee shall repair or replace any damaged property, or compensate property owners for damage resulting from the grantee's installation, construction, service, or repair activities for a customer.  <b>21.60.820.C.7.b</b></p>	<p>\$50 credit plus any additional repairs or reimbursement if the grantee fails to replace or repair the damaged property</p>
<p>Except in the case of an emergency involving public safety or service interruption to a large number of customers, or where the grantee has a legal right of access or entry, the grantee shall give reasonable notice to property owners or legal tenants before entering upon their private property, and the notice shall specify the work to be performed. In the case of construction operations, such notice shall be delivered or provided at least 24 hours before entry.</p> <p>In the case of an emergency, the grantee 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. Nothing in this Chapter 21.60 authorizes access or entry to private property, or any other property, where such right to access or entry is not</p>	<p>\$20 credit if the grantee fails to provide notice or enters premises without permission, plus any additional repairs or reimbursement</p>

<b>Standards of customer service</b> <b>Location in SMC</b>	<b>Minimum compensation for grantee's noncompliance with Standards of customer service</b>
<p>otherwise provided by law.</p> <p>If damage is caused by grantee activity, the grantee shall reimburse the property owner 100 percent of the cost of repairing the damage or replacing the damaged property. For the installation of pedestals or other major construction or installation projects, property owners shall also be notified by mail or door hanger notice at least one week in advance.</p> <p><b>21.60.820.C.7.c</b></p>	
<p>The grantee shall clean all areas surrounding any work site of debris caused by the grantee's activities and ensure that all materials are disposed of properly.</p> <p><b>21.60.820.C.7.d</b></p>	<p>\$20 credit plus cleanup and disposal of debris</p>
<p><b>Services for customers with disabilities</b></p>	
<p>For any customer with a verified disability that prevents the customer from self-installing equipment, the grantee shall at no charge deliver, install, and pick up equipment at the customer's home. In the case of malfunctioning equipment, the grantee shall provide and install substitute equipment, ensure that it is working properly, and remove the defective equipment.</p> <p><b>21.60.820.D.1</b></p>	<p>\$20 credit</p>
<p>The grantee shall provide TDD/TTY service with trained operators who can provide every type of assistance rendered by the grantee's CSR for any hearing-impaired customer at no charge.</p> <p><b>21.60.820.D.2</b></p>	<p>\$20 credit</p>
<p>Grantees shall install, at no charge, any closed captioning device purchased by a hearing-impaired customer.</p> <p><b>21.60.820.D.3</b></p>	<p>\$20 credit</p>
<p>Grantees shall provide free use of a converter remote control unit to mobility-impaired customers.</p> <p><b>21.60.820.D.4</b></p>	<p>\$20 credit and provision of remote control unit</p>
<p><b>Customer information</b></p>	
<p>Upon installation, annually, and at any time a customer requests, the grantee shall provide the following</p>	<p>\$20 credit for failure to provide customer with the</p>

<b>Standards of customer service</b> <b>Location in SMC</b>	<b>Minimum compensation for grantee's noncompliance with Standards of customer service</b>
information to its customers in a clear, concise written form. In addition, the grantee shall notify customers 30 days in advance of any significant changes in the following: <b>21.60.820.E.1</b>	information or notice at the required time
Cable services offered by the grantee, including its channel lineup; <b>21.60.820.E.1.a</b>	
The grantee's prices and options for cable services; conditions of subscription to cable services; and policies concerning changes in services offered, notification of changes, disconnection, and service downgrades. <b>21.60.820.E.1.b</b>	
A description of these Subchapter II (Cable Customer Bill of Rights) standards in a form provided by or approved by the City; <b>21.60.820.E.1.c</b>	
Installation and service maintenance policies, including the customer's responsibilities for equipment; <b>21.60.820.E.1.d</b>	
Instruction on the use of cable TV service, remote control, and standard video recording device hookups; <b>21.60.820.E.1.e</b>	
Instruction on the use of interactive television if provided by the grantee; <b>21.60.820.E.1.f</b>	
Billing and complaint procedures, including the address and telephone number of the grantee's offices, the grantee's policies on deposits and credit balances, returned check charges, and refunds for disruption of cable service or poor signal quality; <b>21.60.820.E.1.g</b>	
Contact information for filing a consumer complaint with the FCC and the Office of Cable Communications; <b>21.60.820.E.1.h</b>	
Policies concerning protection of customer privacy, including provisions for opting-out of disclosure of	



<b>Standards of customer service</b> <b>Location in SMC</b>	<b>Minimum compensation for grantee's noncompliance with Standards of customer service</b>
customer name and address for marketing purposes; <b>21.60.820.E.1.i</b>	
Use and availability of parental control/lock out device; <b>21.60.820.E.1.j</b>	
Special services for customers with disabilities including any discounts required by the franchise or other agreements; and <b>21.60.820.E.1.k</b>	
Days, hours of operation, and locations of the service centers. <b>21.60.820.E.1.l</b>	
The grantee shall provide customers written notification, and announcements on the cable system, of any change in programming, services, or channel positions as soon as possible, but no less than 30 days in advance of such changes if the change is within the control of the grantee. Customers shall be given a description of the changes, their options for changing services they receive, the phone number for questions, and the effective date. <b>21.60.820.E.3</b>	\$20 credit for each affected customer
All of the grantee's officers, agents, employees, contractors, and subcontractors who are in personal contact with customers shall have visible identification cards bearing their name and photograph. The grantee shall account for all identification cards at all times. <b>21.60.820.E.4</b>	\$20 credit
Every vehicle of the grantee used for providing services to customers shall be clearly visually identified to the public as working for the grantee. <b>21.60.820.E.4</b>	\$20 credit for a customer who receives service from an unidentified vehicle
All CSRs shall identify themselves orally to callers immediately following the greeting during each telephone contact with the public. Officers, agents, and employees of the grantee and its contractors and subcontractors shall identify themselves to the customer when making a service call or installation. <b>21.60.820.E.4</b>	\$20 credit

<b>Standards of customer service</b> <b>Location in SMC</b>	<b>Minimum compensation for grantee's noncompliance with Standards of customer service</b>
<p>All CSRs, technicians, employees, agents, contractors, and subcontractors of the grantee in every contact with a customer shall state the estimated cost of the service, repair, or installation orally before delivery of the service or before any work is performed, and shall provide the customer with an oral statement of the estimated total charges before terminating the telephone call. At the customer's request, the grantee shall send the customer a written statement detailing such charges. Grantee shall also provide customers with a written statement of the total estimated charges before leaving the location at which the work was performed.</p> <p><b>21.60.820.E.5</b></p>	<p>\$20 credit</p>
<p>All listings of the grantee's services shall conspicuously display the availability of all service tiers and corresponding prices for City customers, including the cost of either the basic cable service subject to rate regulation or the cost of the grantee's lowest priced cable service tier.</p> <p><b>21.60.820.E.7</b></p>	<p>\$20 credit</p>
<p>The grantee shall not charge customers for any services they have not affirmatively requested.</p> <p><b>21.60.820.E.8</b></p>	<p>\$20 credit</p>
<p><b>Safety</b></p>	
<p>If the grantee receives notice that an unsafe condition exists with respect to its equipment, the grantee shall investigate such condition immediately, and shall take such measures as are necessary to remove or eliminate any unsafe condition.</p> <p><b>21.60.820.G</b></p>	<p>\$50 a day for each 24-hour delay in responding to customer safety concerns</p>
<p><b>Satisfaction guaranteed</b></p>	
<p>The grantee shall guarantee customer satisfaction for every customer who requests new installation of cable service, video, or interactive television, or adds any additional cable service to the customer's cable subscription. Any such customer who adds expanded basic or other higher tier of video service or interactive television to the customer's cable subscription account</p>	<p>\$20 Credit</p>

<p><b>Standards of customer service</b>  <b>Location in SMC</b></p>	<p><b>Minimum compensation for grantee's noncompliance with Standards of customer service</b></p>
<p>and then requests discontinuation of such upgraded service within 30 days due to dissatisfaction with the service shall receive an account credit in an amount equal to the pro rata charge for the remaining days of service following the request to discontinue the service.          If a customer subscribes to a service under a promotion that provides free service and chooses to discontinue the service during the promotion window, there shall be no charge of any kind for the service or for discontinuing the service.  <b>21.60.820.H</b></p>	
<p><b>Customer Privacy</b></p>	
<p>For any violation of Cable customer privacy per Section 21.60.825.</p>	<p>Customer has choice of a check for \$100, or a \$100 credit to the customer's account</p>

Section 80. A new Section 3.22.050 of the Seattle Municipal Code is added as follows:

**3.22.050 Seattle Community Technology Advisory Board (CTAB) – Membership and duties**

A. There is a Community Technology Advisory Board (CTAB) consisting of ten members.

1. CTAB has one member representing public access to information and communications technology, one member representing education, seven at-large members, and one young adult member from the Get Engaged: City Boards and Commissions program, governed by Chapter 3.51. Members must live or work at an address in the City.

2. Six members are appointed by the Mayor, subject to confirmation by the City Council, including the public access, education, and Get Engaged members. Four at-large members are appointed by the City Council.

1           3.       With the exception of the Get Engaged program position, whose term is governed  
2 by Chapter 3.51, the term of a member is two years. A member is eligible for reappointment to  
3 one additional two-year term. A member may serve again after a hiatus of at least four years.  
4 Any vacancy in an unexpired term shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment.  
5 If a person is appointed to fill the duration of an unexpired term, then that term shall count as one  
6 of the two consecutive terms only if the portion of the unexpired term actually served is at least  
7 one year. A member whose term is ending may continue on an interim basis as a member with  
8 voting rights until such time as a successor for that position has been appointed or confirmed by  
9 the City Council.  
10

11           4.       All members serve without compensation.

12       B.       The duties of CTAB are as follows:

13           1.       To study and make recommendations to the Mayor, the Department of  
14 Information Technology, and the City Council on issues referred to CTAB by the Mayor or  
15 Councilmembers relating to information and communications technology. CTAB members may  
16 also bring forward for consideration other issues of community-wide interest relating to  
17 information and communications technology if doing so does not conflict with issues referred by  
18 the Mayor, the Department of Information Technology, or City Council;  
19  
20

21           2.       Regarding information and communications technology issues, to conduct  
22 research, hearings, and workshops, to make written recommendations, and to report its findings  
23 and recommendations to the Mayor and City Council; and

24           3.       To perform such other duties as may from time to time be appropriate and  
25 approved by resolution of the City Council.  
26

1 C. CTAB shall be staffed by an employee of the Department of Information Technology or  
2 other designee of the Chief Technology Officer who shall serve as Secretary to the Board.

3 Section 81. Ordinance 123461, which modified the franchise fee chargeable to cable  
4 television operators, is repealed. The repeal of ordinance 123461 does not reinstate any  
5 ordinances it superseded.

6 Section 82. To the extent that franchise agreements executed before the passage of this  
7 ordinance refer to cable districts and access areas, Exhibit 1 attached to Ordinance 121148 and  
8 Exhibit B attached to Ordinance 105427 shall continue to define cable district boundaries and  
9 designations and depict access districts, respectively.  
10

1 Section 83. This ordinance shall take effect and be in force 30 days after its approval by  
2 the Mayor, but if not approved and returned by the Mayor within ten days after presentation, it  
3 shall take effect as provided by Seattle Municipal Code Section 1.04.020.

4 Passed by the City Council the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of March, 2015, and  
5 signed by me in open session in authentication of its passage this  
6 23<sup>rd</sup> day of March, 2015.

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9 President \_\_\_\_\_ of the City Council

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11 Approved by me this 27<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2015.

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14 Edward B. Murray, Mayor

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16 Filed by me this 27<sup>th</sup> day of MARCH, 2015.

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18   
19 Monica Martinez Simmons, City Clerk

20 (Seal)

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