

2.6 Competitive Equity

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

(B) The modification process of this Franchise as provided for in Section 2.6 (A) shall only be initiated by written notice by the Grantee to Grantor regarding specified franchise obligations. Grantee's notice shall address the following: (1) identifying the specific terms or conditions in the competitive cable services franchise which are materially different from Grantee's obligations under this Franchise; (2) identifying the Franchise terms and conditions for which Grantee is seeking amendments; (3) providing text for any proposed Franchise amendments to Grantor, with a written explanation of why the proposed amendments are necessary and consistent. Notwithstanding any modification of this Franchise pursuant to the provisions of this subsection 2.6, should any entity, whose authorization to provide Cable Services or similar video programming service resulted in a triggering of the amendments under this Section, cease to provide such services within the City, the City may provide ninety (90) days' written notice to Grantee of such fact, and the City and Grantee shall enter into good faith negotiations to determine which of the original terms, conditions and obligations of this Franchise shall be reinstated and fully effective.

(C) Upon receipt of Grantee's written notice as provided in Section 2.6 (B), Grantor and Grantee agree that they will use best efforts in good faith to negotiate Grantee's proposed Franchise modifications, and that such negotiation will proceed and conclude within a ninety (90) day time period, unless that time period is reduced or extended by mutual agreement of the parties. If Grantor and Grantee reach agreement on the Franchise modifications pursuant to such negotiations, then Grantor shall amend this Franchise to include the modifications.

(D) In the alternative to Franchise modification negotiations as provided for in Section 2.6 (C), or if Grantor and Grantee fail to reach agreement in such negotiations, Grantee may, at its option, elect to replace this Franchise by opting into the franchise or other similar

lawful authorization that Grantor grants to another provider of Cable Services (with the understanding that Grantee will use its current system design and technology infrastructure to meet any requirements of the new franchise), so as to insure that the regulatory and financial burdens on each entity are equivalent. If Grantee so elects, Grantor shall immediately commence proceedings to replace this Franchise with the franchise issued to the other multi-channel video programming provider.

(E) Notwithstanding anything contained in this Section 2.6(A) through (D) to the contrary, Grantor shall not be obligated to amend or replace this Franchise unless the new entrant makes Cable Services or similar video programming service available for purchase by Subscribers or customers under its franchise agreement with Grantor.

(F) Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary, at any time that a wireline facilities-based entity, legally authorized by state or federal law, makes available for purchase by Subscribers or customers, Cable Services or multiple Channels of video programming within the Franchise Area without a franchise or other similar lawful authorization granted by the City that permits a new entrant to utilize the Rights of Way granted by Grantor, then:

(1) Grantee may negotiate with Grantor to seek Franchise modifications as per Section 2.6(C) above; or

(a) the term of Grantee's Franchise shall, upon ninety (90) days written notice from Grantee, be shortened so that the Franchise shall be deemed to expire on a date eighteen (18) months from the first day of the month following the date of Grantee's notice and Grantee shall be deemed to have timely invoked the renewal process under 47 USC 546; or,

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

For the purposes of this section, a "wireline facilities-based entity" means an entity, including the Grantor, that owns, controls or manages a significant portion of the wireline facilities located in the Grantor's Rights-of-Way, over which the video programming services are delivered.

2.7 Familiarity with Franchise

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

2.8 Effect of Acceptance

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

SECTION 3. FRANCHISE FEE PAYMENT AND FINANCIAL CONTROLS

3.1 Franchise Fee

As compensation for the benefits and privileges granted under this Franchise and in consideration of permission to use Grantor's Rights-of-Way, Grantee shall continue to pay as a Franchise Fee to Grantor, throughout the duration of and consistent with this Franchise, an amount equal to five percent (5%) of Grantee's Gross Revenues.

3.2 Payments

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

3.3 Acceptance of Payment and Recomputation

No acceptance of any payment shall be construed as an accord by Grantor that the amount paid is, in fact, the correct amount, nor shall any acceptance of payments be construed as a release of any claim Grantor may have for further or additional sums payable or for the performance of any other obligation of Grantee. The period of limitation for recovery of Franchise Fees payable hereunder shall be six (6) years from the date on which payment by the Grantee was due or such shorter period if required by Applicable Law.

3.4 Quarterly Franchise Fee Reports

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

3.5 Annual Franchise Fee Reports

Grantee shall, within ninety (90) days after the end of each year, furnish to Grantor a statement stating the total amount of Gross Revenues for the year and all payments, deductions and computations for the period.

3.6 Audits

On an annual basis, upon thirty (30) days prior written notice, Grantor, including Grantor's Auditor or his/her authorized representative, shall have the right to conduct an independent audit/review of Grantee's records reasonably related to the administration or enforcement of this Franchise. Pursuant to subsection 1.28, as part of the Franchise Fee audit/review Grantor shall specifically have the right to review relevant data related to the allocation of revenue to Cable Services in the event Grantee offers Cable Services bundled with non-Cable Services. For purposes of this section, "relevant data" shall include, at a minimum, Grantee's records, produced and maintained in the ordinary course of business, showing the subscriber counts per package and the revenue allocation per package for each package that was available for Grantor subscribers during the audit period. To the extent that Grantor does not believe that the relevant data supplied is sufficient for Grantor to complete its audit/review, Grantor may require other relevant data. For purposes of this Section 3.6, the "other relevant data" shall generally mean all: (1) billing reports, (2) financial reports (such as General Ledgers) and (3) sample customer bills used by Grantee to determine Gross Revenues for the Franchise Area that would allow Grantor to recompute the Gross Revenue determination. If the audit/review shows that Franchise Fee payments have been underpaid by five percent (5%) or more, Grantee shall pay the total cost of the audit/review, such cost not to exceed five thousand dollars (\$5,000) for each year of the audit period, with such amount to increase upon the annual anniversary of the Effective Date, by an amount equal to the most recent semi-annual Seattle-Tacoma-Bellevue CPI-U as published by the US Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. The Grantor's right to audit/review and Grantee's obligation to retain records necessary to complete any audit under this subsection shall expire consistent with the applicable statute of limitations period under State law; provided, however, that this would not apply to a time period covered under a pending audit.

3.7 Late Payments

In the event any quarterly Franchise Fee payment is not received within forty-five (45) days from the date the payment was due to the Grantor, Grantee shall pay interest on the amount due in the amount of one percent (1%) per month (twelve percent (12%) per annum) on any unpaid balance of the Franchise Fee due, until all payments due are paid in full. Any unpaid fee or interest due under this Franchise that remains unpaid shall constitute a debt to the Grantor, collectible in accordance with the Grantor Code.

3.8 Underpayments and Overpayments

If a net Franchise Fee underpayment is discovered as the result of an audit, Grantee shall pay interest as applicable for late payments under Section 3.7 of this Franchise, calculated from the date each portion of the underpayment was originally due until the date Grantee remits the underpayment to the Grantor. If an overpayment is discovered, Grantee may take an offset against future Franchise Fee payments, with no interest or other cost to the Grantor.

3.9 Alternative Compensation

In the event the obligation of Grantee to compensate Grantor through Franchise Fee payments is lawfully suspended or eliminated, in whole or part, then Grantee shall comply with any other Applicable Law related to the right to occupy the Grantor's Rights-of-Way and compensation therefor.

3.10 Maximum Legal Compensation

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

3.11 Additional Commitments Not Franchise Fee Payments

(A) The PEG Capital Contribution pursuant to Section 9.6, as well as any charges incidental to the awarding or enforcing of this Franchise (including, without limitation, payments for bonds, security funds, letters of credit, insurance, indemnification, penalties or liquidated damage) and Grantee's costs of compliance with Franchise obligations (including, without limitation, compliance with customer service standards and build out obligations) shall not be offset against Franchise Fees. Furthermore, the Grantor and Grantee agree that any local tax of general applicability shall be in addition to any Franchise Fees required herein, and there shall be no offset against Franchise Fees. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Grantee reserves all rights to offset cash or non-cash consideration or obligations from Franchise Fees, consistent with Applicable Law. The Grantor likewise reserves all rights it has under Applicable Law. Should Grantee elect to offset the items set forth herein, or other Franchise commitments such as complimentary Cable Service, against Franchise Fees in accordance with Applicable Law, including any Orders resulting from the FCC's 621 proceeding, MB Docket No. 05-311, Grantee shall provide the Grantor with advance written notice. Such notice shall document the proposed offset or service charges so that the Grantor can make an informed decision as to its course of action. Upon receipt of such notice Grantor shall have up to one hundred twenty (120) days to either (1) maintain the commitment with the understanding that the value shall be offset from Franchise Fees; (2) relieve Grantee from the commitment obligation under the Franchise; or (3) pay for the services rendered pursuant to the commitment in accordance with Grantee's regular and nondiscriminatory term and conditions.

(B) Grantee's notice pursuant to Section 3.11(A) shall, at a minimum, address the following: (1) identify the specific cash or non-cash consideration or obligations that must be offset from Grantee's Franchise Fee obligations; (2) identify the Franchise terms and conditions for which Grantee is seeking amendments; (3) provide text for any proposed Franchise amendments

to the Grantor, with a written explanation of why the proposed amendments are necessary and consistent with Applicable Law; (4) provide all information and documentation reasonably necessary to address how and why specific offsets are to be calculated and (5) if applicable provide all information and documentation reasonably necessary to document how Franchise Fee offsets may be passed through to Subscribers in accordance with 47 U.S.C. 542(e). Nothing in this Section 3.11(B) shall be construed to extend the one hundred twenty (120) day time period for Grantor to make its election under Section 3.11(A); provided however, that any disagreements or disputes over whether sufficient information has been provided pursuant to this Paragraph (B) may be addressed under Sections 13.1 or 13.2 of this Franchise.

(C) Upon receipt of Grantee's written notice as provided in Section 3.11 (B), the Grantor and Grantee agree that they will use best efforts in good faith to negotiate Grantee's proposed Franchise modifications and agree to what offsets, if any, are to be made to the Franchise Fee obligations. Such negotiation will proceed and conclude within a one hundred twenty (120) day time period, unless that time period is reduced or extended by mutual agreement of the parties. If the Grantor and Grantee reach agreement on the Franchise modifications pursuant to such negotiations, then the Grantor shall amend this Franchise to include those modifications.

(D) If the parties are unable to reach agreement on any Franchise Fee offset issue within one hundred twenty (120) days or such other time as the parties may mutually agree, each party reserves all rights it may have under Applicable Law to address such offset issues.

(E) The Grantor acknowledges that Grantee currently provides one outlet of Basic Service and Digital Starter Service and associated equipment to certain Grantor owned and occupied or leased and occupied buildings, schools, fire stations and public libraries located in areas where Grantee provides Cable Service. For purposes of this Franchise, "school" means all State-accredited K-12 public and private schools. Outlets of Basic and Digital Starter Service provided in accordance with this subsection may be used to distribute Cable Services throughout such buildings, provided such distribution can be accomplished without causing Cable System disruption and general technical standards are maintained. Grantee's commitment to provide this service is voluntary, and may be terminated by Grantee, at its sole discretion.

(1) Grantee's termination of complimentary services provided shall be pursuant to the provisions of Section 3.11(A)-(D) above. Grantor may make a separate election for each account or line of service identified in the notice (for example, Grantee may choose to accept certain services or accounts as offsets to Franchise Fees, and discontinue other services or accounts), so long as all elections are made within one hundred twenty (120) days. Grantee shall also provide written notice to each entity that is currently receiving complimentary services with copies of those notice(s) sent to the Grantor.

(2) Notwithstanding the foregoing, Grantee reserves all rights to offset cash or non-cash consideration or obligations from Franchise Fees, consistent with Applicable Law. The Grantor likewise reserves all rights it has under Applicable Law.

(F) The parties understand and agree that offsets may be required and agreed to as a result of the FCC's Order in what is commonly known as the 621 Proceeding, MB Docket No. 05-