# **RENEWAL**

# **CABLE TELEVISION FRANCHISE**

**FOR THE** 

TOWN OF NOTTINGHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE

# **Table of Contents**

INTRODUCTION	4
ARTICLE 1 - DEFINITIONS	5
SECTION 1.1 - DEFINITIONS	5
ARTICLE 2 GRANT OF RENEWAL FRANCHISE	10
SECTION 2.1 - GRANT OF RENEWAL FRANCHISE	
SECTION 2.2 - TERM: NON-EXCLUSIVITY	
SECTION 2.3 – RENEWAL OF FRANCHISE	
SECTION 2.4 – NON-EXCLUSIVITY OF FRANCHISE	11
SECTION 2.5 - RESERVATION OF AUTHORITY	
SECTION 2.6 - POLE AND CONDUIT ATTACHMENT RIGHTS	
ARTICLE 3 SYSTEM SPECIFICATIONS AND CONSTRUCTION	14
SECTION 3.1 - AREA TO BE SERVED	
SECTION 3.2 - LINE EXTENSION POLICY	
SECTION 3.3 - SUBSCRIBER NETWORK	
SECTION 3.4 - SUBSCRIBER NETWORK CABLE DROPS	
SECTION 3.5 - PARENTAL CONTROL CAPABILITY	
SECTION 3.6 - EMERGENCY ALERT OVERRIDE CAPACITY	
ARTICLE 4 TECHNOLOGICAL & SAFETY STANDARDS	18
SECTION 4.1 - SYSTEM MAINTENANCE	
SECTION 4.2 - CABLE LOCATION	
SECTION 4.3 - REPAIRS AND RESTORATION	
SECTION 4.4 - TREE TRIMMING	
SECTION 4.5 - BUILDING MOVES	
SECTION 4.6 – STRAND MAPS	
SECTION 4.7 - DIG SAFE	
SECTION 4.8 - DISCONNECTION AND RELOCATION SECTION 4.9 – PROHIBITION AGAINST RESELLING OF SERVICE	
SECTION 4.9 – PROHIBITION AGAINST RESELLING OF SERVICE	
SECTION 4.10 – EMERGENCY REMOVAL OF PLANTSECTION 4.11 – STANDBY POWER	
ARTICLE 5 PROGRAMMING	
SECTION 5.1 - BASIC CABLE SERVICE	
SECTION 5.2 - PROGRAMMING	
SECTION 5.3 - REMOTE CONTROLS	
SECTION 5.4 - STEREO TV TRANSMISSIONS	23
SECTION 5.5 – CABLE CHANNELS FOR COMMERCIAL USE	
ARTICLE 6 PEG ACCESS CHANNEL(S)	25
SECTION 6.1 - PEG ACCESS CHANNEL(S)	
SECTION 6.2—INTERCONNECTION WITH COMPETING CABLE FRANCHISEE	26
SECTION 6.3 – FRANCHISE RELATED COST	26
SECTION 6.4 – PEG ACCESS PROGRAMMING INDEMNIFICATION	26
SECTION 6.5 – PEG ACCESS CABLECASTING	26
SECTION 6.6 - PROGRAMMING EXCLUSIVITY AND NON-COMPETITION	27
ARTICLE 7 CUSTOMER SERVICE & CONSUMER PROTECTION	28
SECTION 7.1 - CUSTOMER SERVICE	28

SECTION 7.2 – CONSUMER COMPLAINT PROCEDURES	28
SECTION 7.3 - SERVICE INTERRUPTIONS	
SECTION 7.4 - PROTECTION OF SUBSCRIBER PRIVACY	28
SECTION 7.5 – PROPRIETARY INFORMATION	
SECTION 7.6 - EMPLOYEE IDENTIFICATION CARDS	29
ARTICLE 8 PRICES & CHARGES	30
SECTION 8.1 - PRICES AND CHARGES	
ARTICLE 9 REGULATORY OVERSIGHT	31
SECTION 9.1 - INDEMNIFICATION	31
SECTION 9.2 - INSURANCE	31
SECTION 9.3 - PERFORMANCE BOND	
SECTION 9.4 - FRANCHISE FEE	32
SECTION 9.5 - REPORTS	
SECTION 9.6 - EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY	33
SECTION 9.7 - REVOCATION OF FRANCHISE	
SECTION 9.8 - NOTICE AND OPPORTUNITY TO CURE	
SECTION 9.9 - TRANSFER OR ASSIGNMENT	
SECTION 9.10 – REMOVAL OF SYSTEM	
SECTION 9.11 - INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE	
SECTION 9.12- NO THIRD PARTY BENEFICIARIES	37
ARTICLE 10 MISCELLANEOUS	38
SECTION 10.1 - SEVERABILITY	
SECTION 10.2 - FORCE MAJEURE	
SECTION 10.3 - NOTICES	
SECTION 10.4 - ENTIRE AGREEMENT	
SECTION 10.5 - CAPTIONS	40
SECTION 10.6 - WARRANTIES	40
SECTION 10.7 - APPLICABILITY OF RENEWAL FRANCHISE	
SIGNATURE PAGE	41
EXHIBIT A PUBLIC BUILDINGS ON THE CABLE SYSTEM	42
EXHIBIT B PROGRAMMING	43
EXHIBIT C VIDEO ORIGINATION LOCATIONS	
LAHIDH C VIDEO CINGHALION LOCALIONS	·····················

# **NOTTINGHAM, NH RENEWAL FRANCHISE**

#### INTRODUCTION

WHEREAS, Comcast of Maine/New Hampshire, Inc. (hereinafter "Franchisee"), is the duly authorized holder of a renewal Franchise to operate a cable television system in the Town of Nottingham, New Hampshire (hereinafter the "Town" or "Franchising Authority") pursuant to NH R.S.A. 53-C, as amended, said Franchise having commenced on August 1, 2011;

WHEREAS, Franchisee filed a written request for a renewal of its Franchise by letter dated December 15, 2015 in conformity with the Cable Communications Policy Act of 1984 ("Cable Act");

WHEREAS, there has been an opportunity for public comment, as required by Section 626(h) of the Cable Act;

WHEREAS, the Franchising Authority has determined that the financial, legal, and technical ability of Franchisee is reasonably sufficient to provide services, facilities, and equipment necessary to meet the future cable-related needs of the community, and desires to enter into this Renewal Franchise with Franchisee for the construction and continued operation of a cable system on the terms and conditions set forth herein;

WHEREAS, the Town's Board of Selectmen, as the Franchising Authority, finds that Franchisee has complied with the terms of its previous Franchise; and

WHEREAS, insofar as the State of New Hampshire has delegated to the Town the authority to grant a Franchise for cable system operation within the Town's territorial boundaries, the Town hereby exercises its authority to grant a non-exclusive Franchise permitting the operation of a cable communications system within the Town of Nottingham.

NOW THEREFORE, after due and full consideration, the Franchising Authority and Franchisee agree that this Renewal Franchise is issued upon the following terms and conditions:

#### **DEFINITIONS**

#### **SECTION 1.1 - DEFINITIONS**

For the purpose of this Renewal Franchise, capitalized terms, phrases, words, and abbreviations shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Cable Communications Policy Act of 1984, as amended from time to time, 47 U.S.C. §§521 et seq. (the "Cable Act"), and the Revised Statutes Annotated of New Hampshire, as amended from time to time, unless otherwise defined herein.

- (a) Access Provider shall mean the person, group or entity, for non-profit, designated by the Franchising Authority for the purpose of operating and managing the use of Public, Educational and Government Access funding, equipment and channels on the cable television system in accordance with this Renewal Franchise and 47 U.S.C. 531.
- (b) <u>Basic Cable Service</u> shall mean the lowest tier of service which includes the retransmission of local television broadcast signals.
- (c) <u>Cable Act</u> shall mean the Cable Communications Policy Act of 1984, Public Law No. 98-549, 98 Stat. 2779 (1984), 47 U.S.C. 521 et. seq., amending the Communications Act of 1934, as further amended by the 1992 Cable Consumer Protection and Competition Act, Public Law No. 102-385 and the Telecommunications Act of 1996, Public Law No. 104-458, 110 Stat. 56 (1996) and as may be further amended.
- (d) <u>Cable Television System or Cable System</u> shall mean the facility owned, constructed, installed, operated and maintained by Franchisee in the Town of Nottingham, consisting of a set of closed transmission paths and associated signal generation, reception, and control equipment that is designated to provide cable service which includes video programming and which is provided to multiple subscribers within a community, but such term does not include (a) a facility that serves only to retransmit the television signals of one or more television broadcast stations; (b) a facility that serves subscribers without using any public right-of-way; or

- (d) an open video system that complies with section 653 of this title, or (e) any facilities of any electric utility used solely for operating its electric utility systems. (e) <u>Cable Service</u> shall mean the one-way transmission to subscribers of (i) video programming, or (ii) other programming service, and subscriber interaction, if any, which is required for the selection or use of such video programming or other programming service.
- (f) <u>Drop</u> shall mean the coaxial cable that connects a home or building to the Subscriber Network
- (g) <u>Educational Access Channel</u> shall mean a video channel(s) made available by the Franchisee and designated for non-commercial use by educational institutions such as public or private schools (grades k-12), but not "home schools," community, public or private colleges or universities.
  - (h) Effective Date -October 1, 2018
- (i) <u>FCC</u> shall mean the Federal Communications Commission or any successor governmental entity.
- (j) <u>Franchising Authority</u> shall mean the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Nottingham, New Hampshire, or the lawful designee thereof.
- (k) <u>Franchisee</u> shall mean Comcast of Maine/New Hampshire, Inc. or any successor or transferee in accordance with the terms and conditions in this Renewal Franchise.
- (I) <u>Franchise Fee</u> shall mean the payments to be made to the Franchise Authority or other governmental entity which shall have the meaning set forth in Section 622(g) of the Cable Act, 47 U.S.C. §542.
- (m) <u>Governmental Access Channel</u> shall mean a video channel made available by the Franchisee and designated for non-commercial use by the Franchising Authority for the purpose of showing public local government programming.

- (n) Gross Annual Revenue means revenue received by the Franchisee that is derived from the operation of the Cable System within the Town for the provision of Cable Services, calculated in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. Gross Annual Revenues shall include, without limitation, all Subscriber Cable Service monthly fees, installation and reconnection fees, monthly pay, pay-per-view and on demand services, Cable Service equipment rental, leases or sales, if any, all other Cable Service fees, downgrade, upgrade and any similar fees, advertising and home shopping revenue, and any fees paid for channels designated for commercial use. In the event that an Affiliate is responsible for advertising, advertising revenues shall be deemed to be pro-rata portion of advertising revenues, paid to the Cable System by an Affiliate for said Affiliate's use of the Cable System for the carriage of advertising. Gross Annual Revenues shall not include bad debt expense. Gross Annual Revenues shall not include any fee or tax on services furnished by Franchisee and paid to any governmental entity and collected by the Franchisee on behalf of such entity, nor shall Gross Annual Revenues include any fees on Franchise Fees.
- (o) <u>Modulator</u> shall mean CATV modulator or equivalent device used for video signal transport.
- (p) <u>Normal Operating Conditions</u> shall mean those service conditions which are within the control of the Franchisee. Those conditions which are not within the control of the Franchisee include, but are not limited to, natural disasters, civil disturbances, power outages, telephone network outages, and severe or unusual weather conditions. Those conditions which are ordinarily within the control of the Franchisee include, but are not limited to, special promotions, pay-per-view events, rate increases, regular peak or seasonal demand periods, and maintenance or upgrade of the Cable System.
- (q) <u>Outlet</u> shall mean an interior receptacle that connects a television set to the Cable Television System.

- (r) <u>PEG Access User</u> shall mean a Person utilizing the Cable Television System, including all related facilities for purposes of production and/or transmission of Peg Access Programming as opposed to utilization solely as a Subscriber.
- (s) <u>Person</u> shall mean any natural person or any association, firm, partnership, joint venture, corporation, or other legally recognized entity, whether for-profit or not-for profit, but shall not mean the Franchising Authority.
- (t) <u>Public Access Channel</u> shall mean a video channel made available by the Franchisee and designed for non-commercial use by the public on a first-come, first-served, non-discriminatory basis.
- (u) <u>Public, Educational and Governmental Access Channel</u> shall mean a video channel made available by the Franchisee and designated for non-commercial use by the public, educational institutions such as public or private schools, but not "home schools," community colleges, and universities, as well as the Franchising Authority.
- (v) <u>Public, Educational and Government (PEG) Access Programming</u> shall mean non-commercial programming produced by any Nottingham residents or organizations, schools and government entities and the use of designated facilities, equipment and/or channels of the Cable System in accordance with 47 U.S.C. 531 and this Franchise Renewal.
- (w) <u>Public Way</u> shall mean the surface of, and the space above and below, any public street, highway, freeway, bridge, land path, alley, court, boulevard, sidewalk, way, lane, public way, drive, circle or other public right-of-way, including, but not limited to, public utility easements, dedicated utility strips, or rights-of-way dedicated for compatible uses and any temporary or permanent fixtures or improvements located thereon now or hereafter held by the Franchising Authority in the Town of Nottingham, which shall entitle Franchisee to the use thereof for the purpose of installing, operating, repairing, and maintaining the Cable System. Public Way shall also mean any easement now or hereafter held by the Franchising Authority within the Town of Nottingham for the purpose of public travel, or for utility or public service use dedicated for compatible uses, and shall include other easements or rights-of-way as shall

within their proper use and meaning entitle Franchisee to the use thereof for the purposes of installing, operating, and maintaining Franchisee's Cable System over poles, wires, cables, conductors, ducts, conduits, vaults, manholes, amplifiers, appliances, attachments, and other property as may be ordinarily necessary and pertinent to the Cable System.

- (x) <u>Public Buildings</u> shall mean those buildings owned or leased by the Franchising Authority for government administrative purposes, and shall not include buildings owned by Franchising Authority but leased to third parties or buildings such as storage facilities at which government employees are not regularly stationed.
- (y) <u>Renewal Franchise or Franchise</u> shall mean this Agreement and any amendments or modifications in accordance with the terms herein.
- (z) <u>Signal</u> shall mean any transmission which carries Programming from one location to another.
- (aa) <u>Standard Installation</u> shall mean the standard two hundred twenty-five foot (225') aerial Drop connection to the existing distribution system.
- (ab) <u>Subscriber</u> shall mean a Person or user of the Cable System who lawfully receives Cable Service with Franchisee's express permission.
- (ac) <u>Subscriber Network</u> shall mean the trunk and feeder signal distribution network over which video and audio signals are transmitted to Subscribers.
  - (ad) <u>Town</u> shall mean the Town of Nottingham, New Hampshire.
- (ae) <u>Trunk and Distribution System</u> shall mean that portion of the Cable System for the delivery of Signals, but not including Drop Cable(s) to Subscriber's residences.
- (af) <u>Video Programming or Programming</u> shall mean the Programming provided by, or generally considered comparable to programming provided by, a television broadcast station.

#### **GRANT OF RENEWAL FRANCHISE**

## **SECTION 2.1 - GRANT OF RENEWAL FRANCHISE**

- (a) Pursuant to the authority of RSA 53-C and the Cable Act, the Franchising Authority hereby grants a non-exclusive Renewal Franchise to Comcast of Maine/New Hampshire, Inc., authorizing and permitting Franchisee to construct, operate and maintain a Cable Television System in the Public Way within the municipal limits of the Town of Nottingham. Nothing in this Franchise shall be construed to prohibit Franchisee from offering any service over its Cable System that is not prohibited by federal or state law.
- (b) This Renewal Franchise is granted under and in compliance with the Cable Act and RSA 53-C of the Laws of New Hampshire, and in compliance with all rules and regulations of the FCC in force and effect during the period for which this Renewal Franchise is granted.
- (c) Subject to the terms and conditions herein, the Franchising Authority hereby grants to Franchisee the right to construct, upgrade, install, operate and maintain a Cable Television System within the Public Way.

#### **SECTION 2.2 - TERM: NON-EXCLUSIVITY**

The term of this non-exclusive Renewal Franchise shall be for a period ten (10) years and shall commence on October 1, 2018 and expire on September 30, 2028.

#### **SECTION 2.3 – RENEWAL OF FRANCHISE**

The renewal of this Franchise shall be governed by applicable federal law and regulations promulgated hereunder and by applicable New Hampshire law.

#### **SECTION 2.4 – NON-EXCLUSIVITY OF FRANCHISE**

- (a) Franchisee acknowledges and agrees that the Franchising Authority reserves the right to grant one or more additional Franchises or other similar lawful authorizations to other Cable Service or within the Town for the right to use and occupy the Public Ways or streets within the Franchising Authority's jurisdiction; provided, however, that in accordance with RSA 53-C:3-b no such Franchise agreement shall contain terms or conditions more favorable or less burdensome than those in any existing Franchise within the Town.
- (b) In the event that the Franchisee believes that any additional Franchise or other similar lawful authorization has been granted on terms and conditions more favorable or less burdensome than those contained in this Renewal Franchise, the Franchisee may so notify the Franchising Authority in writing and may request that the Franchising Authority convene a meeting. Along with said written request, the Franchisee shall provide the Franchising Authority with written reasons for its belief. At said meeting, the Franchisee shall have an opportunity to demonstrate that any such additional Franchise or other similar lawful authorization is on terms more favorable or less burdensome than those contained in this Renewal Franchise. The Franchisee shall provide the Franchising Authority with such financial or other relevant information as is reasonably requested.
- (c) If the franchising authority finds the claim to be supported, it shall address the offending terms and conditions within a reasonable time
- (d) In the event that Franchisee demonstrates that an existing or future Cable Service or similar wireline based video service provider in the Town has been provided relief by the Franchising Authority from any obligation of its Franchise, then Franchisee shall be awarded an equivalent amount of relief from obligations herein. Such relief shall be in writing and in the form of an amendment to this Franchise. The Franchising Authority shall convene a public hearing on the issue within sixty (60) days of Franchisee's notification to the Franchising Authority requiring such relief, unless otherwise mutually agreed to. Franchisee shall provide reasons for its belief in the notification. At the public hearing, the Franchising Authority shall

afford Franchisee an opportunity to demonstrate that any existing or future service providers in the Town have been provided relief by the Franchising Authority from any obligation of its cable television Franchise or other similar lawful authorization. Franchisee shall provide the Franchising Authority with such financial or other relevant information as is reasonably requested to justify its belief.

#### **SECTION 2.5 - RESERVATION OF AUTHORITY**

Nothing in this Renewal Franchise shall (i) abrogate the right of the Franchising Authority to perform any public works or public improvements of any description, (ii) be construed as a waiver of any codes or bylaws of general applicability and not specific to the Cable Television System, Franchisee, or this Franchise, or (iii) be construed as a waiver or release of the rights of the Franchising Authority in and to the Public Ways. This Franchise is a contract and except as to those changes which are the result of the Franchising Authority's lawful exercise of its general police power, the Franchising Authority may not take any unilateral action which materially changes the explicit mutual promises in this Franchise. Any changes to this Franchise must be made in writing signed by the Franchisee and the Franchising Authority. In the event of any conflict between this Franchise and any Franchising Authority ordinance or regulation that is not generally applicable, this Franchise shall control. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Franchise, Franchisee reserves the right to challenge provisions of any ordinance, rule, regulation, or other enactment of the Franchising Authority that conflicts with its contractual rights under this Franchise, either now or in the future

## **SECTION 2.6 - POLE AND CONDUIT ATTACHMENT RIGHTS**

(a) If Franchisee desires to install its own poles in the right of way, it shall comply with RSA 231:159:-182. Pursuant to RSA 231:159-182, permission is hereby granted to Franchisee to attach or otherwise affix including, but not limited to cables, wire, or optical fibers comprising the Cable Television System to the existing poles and conduits on and under public streets and

ways, provided Franchisee secures the permission and consent of the public utility companies to affix the cables and/or wires to their pole and conduit facilities. By virtue of this Franchise the Franchising Authority grants Franchisee equal standing with power and telephone utilities in the manner of placement of facilities on Public Ways, subject to the lawful exercise of the authority of the Town to approve the location of all installations in the Public Ways, and subject to the Town's lawful use of the Public Ways.

(b) Franchisee's use or occupancy of property of the state, town, or school district pursuant to this franchise shall be subject to tax under RSA 72:23,I(b), and Franchisee shall responsible for the payment of, and shall pay, all properly assessed current and potential personal and real property taxes, if any, for such use or occupation and all properly assessed current and potential and real property taxes, if any, on structures or improvements made by franchisee pursuant to this franchise. Pursuant to the provisions of this section, "failure of the franchisee to pay duly assessed personal and real estate taxes when due shall be cause to terminate said lease or agreement by the franchising authority." Accordingly, this is a material term of the franchise and failure to pay duly assessed personal and real property taxes when due shall be cause for the franchising authority to provide a written notice to franchisee to show cause by a date certain specified in the notice as to why this franchise should not be revoked. To the extent applicable law provides authority for the franchising authority to assess taxes on franchisee, pursuant to RSA 72:23, I (b), 72:8-a, 73:10 and/or 48-B:4 the franchising authority shall be authorized to impose such taxes and franchisee shall be obligated to pay such properly assessed taxes. However, franchisee reserves all rights to appeal any assessment of personal or real property taxes.

## SYSTEM SPECIFICATIONS AND CONSTRUCTION

#### **SECTION 3.1 - AREA TO BE SERVED**

- Franchisee shall make Cable Service available to every residential dwelling unit within the Town where the minimum density is at least twenty (20) dwelling units per aerial mile and forty (40) dwelling units per underground mile providing however, that any plant extension is measured from the existing Trunk and Distribution System and Franchisee is able to obtain from property owners any necessary easements and/or permits in accordance with Cable Act. Franchisee shall make Cable Service available to multiple dwelling units (MDU) where economically feasible and providing that Franchisee is able to obtain from the property owners any necessary easements, permits and agreements to provide Service to said MDU. Subject to the density requirement, Franchisee shall offer Cable Service to all new homes or previously unserved homes located within two hundred twenty-five feet (225') of Franchisee's Trunk and Distribution System. For non-Standard Installations Franchisee shall offer said service within ninety (90) days of a Subscriber requesting such for aerial installations and one hundred eighty (180) days, weather permitting, of a Subscriber requesting such for underground installations. With respect to areas of the Town which are currently served by Franchisee from a contiguous cable television system or currently unserved but could be served by abutting Town (s) served by Franchisee, Franchisee shall have the option to serve such areas from its cable television system in such abutting Town.
- (b) Installation costs shall conform to the Cable Act. Any dwelling unit within an aerial two hundred twenty-five feet (225 ft.) of the Trunk and Distribution System shall be entitled to a Standard Installation rate in accordance with applicable federal and state laws. Underground installs are considered non-standard installations. All non-standard installations shall be provided at a rate established by the Franchisee in accordance with applicable federal and state laws.

(c) Provided Franchisee has at least ninety (90) days' prior written notice concerning the opening of residential subdivision trenching, or of the installation of conduit for the location of utilities, it shall install its cable in such trenching or conduits or may seek permission to utilize alternative trenching or conduits within a comparable time frame. If a substantial quantity of cable is required for a large subdivision and said quantity is not in stock, Franchisee shall be allowed additional time for said installation. The Franchising Authority, or its designee, shall exercise reasonable efforts to have the Planning Board and developers give timely written notice of trenching and underground construction to Franchisee. Developer shall be responsible for the digging and back-filling of all trenches.

#### **SECTION 3.2 - LINE EXTENSION POLICY**

- (a) Consistent with Section 3.1 above, the Cable Television System shall be extended automatically, at the Franchisee's sole cost and expense, to any and all areas of the Town's Public Ways containing twenty (20) dwelling units or more per aerial mile or sixty (60) dwelling units or more per underground mile of Cable System plant or fractional proportion thereof in non-underground housing development areas of the Town.
- (b) The Cable Television System shall be further extended to all areas in the Town that do not meet the requirements of Section 3.1(a) above upon the request of dwelling unit owners in such areas and based upon the following cost calculation:

$$(C/LE) - (CA/P) = SC$$

- \* C equals the cost of construction of new plant from existing Cable System plant; from the end of the current serviceable line to the last pole necessary to serve the last participating dewing unit. The cost does not include the installation charges
- \* LE equals the number of dwelling units requesting service in the line extension area and who subsequently pay a contribution in aid;
- \* CA equals the average cost of construction per mile in the primary service area;

- \* P equals the twenty (20) dwelling units per aerial or sixty (60) dwelling units per underground mile of aerial plant; and
- \* SC equals the per dwelling unit contribution in aid of construction in the line extension area.
- (c) The Franchising Authority shall make its best efforts to provide the Franchisee with written notice of the issuance of building permits for planned housing developments in the Town.

#### **SECTION 3.3 - SUBSCRIBER NETWORK**

Franchisee shall maintain a Cable Television System, fully capable of carrying a minimum bandwidth of 750MHz.

## **SECTION 3.4 - SUBSCRIBER NETWORK CABLE DROPS**

- (a) Franchisee shall maintain the current level of existing active Drops, Outlets and Basic Cable Service, at no charge to the Town, to each Public Building located along the existing Trunk and Distribution System as of the Effective Date, as designated by the Franchising Authority within the Town, listed in **Exhibit A** attached hereto, provided such are considered to be a Standard Installation and absent of other unusual installation conditions and requirements.
- (b) Upon written request by the Franchising Authority, Franchisee shall provide one (1) Standard Installation, Drop, Outlet and Basic Cable Service at no charge to any new Public Buildings and other Town owned Public Buildings, along the Trunk and Distribution System subject to the limitations set forth above. The Franchising Authority or its designee shall consult with a representative of Franchisee to determine the appropriate location for each of such Public Building's respective Outlet prior to requesting that Franchisee install the Service at no charge.
- (c) Nothing in this Section shall require Franchisee to move existing or install additional Drops or Outlets at no charge to those buildings included in **Exhibit A**, or to move existing or install additional Drops or Outlets already installed in buildings pursuant to subsection (b) above.

(d) It is understood that Franchisee shall not be responsible for any internal wiring of such Public Buildings.

## **SECTION 3.5 - PARENTAL CONTROL CAPABILITY**

- (a) Pursuant to applicable law, upon request, and at no separate, additional charge, Franchisee shall provide Subscribers with the capability to control the reception of any channel on the Cable System.
- (b) The Franchising Authority acknowledges that the parental control capability may be part of a converter box and Franchisee may charge Subscriber for use of said box.

#### **SECTION 3.6 - EMERGENCY ALERT OVERRIDE CAPACITY**

Franchisee shall comply with the FCC's Emergency Alert System ("EAS") regulations.

#### **TECHNOLOGICAL & SAFETY STANDARDS**

#### **SECTION 4.1 - SYSTEM MAINTENANCE**

- (a) In installing, operating and maintaining equipment, cable and wires, Franchisee shall avoid damage and injury to trees, structures and improvements in and along the routes authorized by the Franchising Authority, except as may be approved by the Franchising Authority if required for the proper installation, operation and maintenance of such equipment, cable and wires.
- (b) The construction, maintenance and operation of the Cable Television System for which this Renewal Franchise is granted shall be done in conformance with all applicable laws, bylaws, codes and regulations of general applicability and the rules and regulations of the FCC as the same exist or as same may be hereafter amended.
- (c) Operating and maintenance personnel shall be trained in the use of all safety equipment and the safe operation of vehicles and equipment. Franchisee shall install and maintain its equipment, cable and wires in such a manner as shall not interfere with any installations of the Town or any public utility serving the Town.
- (d) All structures and all equipment, cable and wires in, over, under, and upon streets, sidewalks, alleys, and public rights of ways of the Town, wherever situated or located shall at all times be kept and maintained in a safe and suitable condition and in good order and repair.

## **SECTION 4.2 - CABLE LOCATION**

(a) In all areas of the Town where all of the transmission and distribution facilities of all public or municipal utilities are installed underground, Franchisee shall install its Cable System underground provided that such facilities are actually capable of receiving Franchisee's cable and other equipment without technical degradation of the Cable System's signal quality.

- (b) In all areas of the Town where public utility lines are aerially placed, if subsequently during the term of the Franchise such public utility lines are required by local ordinance or State law to be relocated aerially or underground, Franchisee shall similarly relocate its Cable System if it is given reasonable notice and access to the public and municipal utilities facilities at the time that such are placed underground. Any costs incurred by Franchisee for relocating utility poles or trenching for the placement of underground conduits shall be entitled to reimbursement of such relocation costs in the event public or private funds are raised for the project and made available to other users of the Public Way. In the event that such public or private funds are not available for the project, Franchise reserves the right to pass through such project costs in accordance with applicable law and regulation.
- (c) Provided Franchisee has at least ninety (90) days' prior written notice concerning the opening of residential subdivision trenching, or of the installation of conduit for the location of utilities, it shall install its cable in such trenching or conduits or may seek permission to utilize alternative trenching or conduits within a comparable time frame. If a substantial quantity of cable is required for a large subdivision and said quantity is not in stock, Franchisee shall be allowed additional time for said installation. The Franchising Authority, or its designee, shall exercise reasonable efforts to have the Planning Board and developers give timely written notice of trenching and underground construction to Franchisee. Developer shall be responsible for the digging and back-filling of all trenches.
- (d) Nothing in this Section shall be construed to require Franchisee to construct, operate, or maintain underground any ground-mounted appurtenances such as customer taps, line extenders, system passive devices, amplifiers, power supplies, pedestals, or other related equipment.

## **SECTION 4.3 - REPAIRS AND RESTORATION**

Whenever Franchisee takes up or disturbs any pavement, sidewalk or other improvement of any public right of way or public place, in accordance of RSA 236:9 the same

shall be replaced and the surface restored in as good condition as possible as before entry as soon as practicable. If Franchisee fails to make such restoration within a reasonable time, the Franchising Authority may fix a reasonable time for such restoration and repairs, and shall notify Franchisee in writing of the restoration and repairs required and the time fixed for the performance thereof. Upon failure of Franchisee to comply within the time specified, the Franchising Authority may cause proper restoration and repairs to be made and the expense of such work shall be paid by Franchisee upon written demand by the Franchising Authority

#### **SECTION 4.4 - TREE TRIMMING**

Franchisee shall have authority to trim trees upon and overhanging public streets, alleys, sidewalks and ways and places of the Town so as to prevent the branches of such trees from coming in contact with the wires, cables and equipment of Franchisee, in accordance with RSA 231:157-158 and any Town bylaws and regulations.

#### **SECTION 4.5 - BUILDING MOVES**

In accordance with applicable laws, Franchisee shall, upon the written request of any person holding a building moving permit issued by the Town, temporarily raise or lower its wires to permit the moving of the building(s). Franchisee shall be given not less than thirty (30) days' advance written notice to arrange for such temporary wire changes. The cost to raise or lower wires shall be borne exclusively by the person(s) holding the building move permit.

#### **SECTION 4.6 – STRAND MAPS**

Franchisee shall maintain a complete set of strand maps of the Town, which will show those areas in which its facilities exist. The strand maps will be retained at Franchisee's primary place of business and will be available to the Franchising Authority for inspection by the Franchising Authority upon written request.

#### **SECTION 4.7 - DIG SAFE**

Franchisee shall comply with all applicable "dig safe" provisions, pursuant to RSA 374:51 of the New Hampshire Laws.

## **SECTION 4.8 - DISCONNECTION AND RELOCATION**

- (a) Franchisee shall, at its sole cost and expense, protect, support, temporarily disconnect, relocate in the same street, or other Public Right of Ways, or remove from any street or any other Public Ways and places, any of its property as required by the Franchising Authority or its designee by reason of traffic conditions, public safety, street construction, change or establishment of street grade, or the construction of any public improvement or structure by any Town department acting in a governmental capacity.
- (b) In requiring Franchisee to protect, support, temporarily disconnect, relocate or remove any portion of its property, the Franchising Authority shall treat Franchisee the same as, and require no more of Franchisee, than any other similarly situated utility.
- (c) In either case, Franchisee shall have the right to seek reimbursement under any applicable insurance or government program for reimbursement.

## **SECTION 4.9 – PROHIBITION AGAINST RESELLING OF SERVICE**

No Person shall resell, without the express prior written consent of Franchisee, any Cable Service, program or signal transmitted over the Cable System by Franchisee.

## **SECTION 4.10 - EMERGENCY REMOVAL OF PLANT**

(a) If, at any time, in case of fire or disaster in the Town, it shall be necessary in the reasonable judgment of the Franchising Authority to cut or move any of the wires, cable or equipment of the Cable Television System, the Town shall have the right to do so without cost or liability, provided however that, wherever possible, the Franchising Authority gives Franchisee written notice and the ability to relocate wires, cable or other equipment.

(b) In either case, Franchisee shall have the right to seek reimbursement under any applicable insurance or government program for reimbursement. All cable operators or public or municipal utility companies shall be treated alike if reimbursed for such costs by the Town.

# **SECTION 4.11 – STANDBY POWER**

The Cable System shall incorporate equipment capable of providing standby powering of the head end for a minimum of twenty-four (24) hours upon failure of commercial power.

#### **PROGRAMMING**

#### **SECTION 5.1 - BASIC CABLE SERVICE**

Franchisee shall make available a Basic Cable Service tier to all subscribers in accordance with 47 U.S.C. 534.

#### **SECTION 5.2 - PROGRAMMING**

- (a) Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. 544, Franchisee shall maintain the mix, quality and broad categories of Video Programming as set forth in **Exhibit B**. Pursuant to federal law, all Video Programming decisions, excluding PEG Access Programming, are at the sole discretion of Franchisee.
- (b) Franchisee shall comply with 76.1603 of the FCC Rules and Regulations regarding notice of programming changes.

## **SECTION 5.3 - REMOTE CONTROLS**

In accordance with applicable law, Franchisee shall allow Subscribers to purchase remote control devices which are compatible with the converter installed by Franchisee, if any, and allow the use of remotes. Franchisee takes no responsibility for changes in its equipment or services that might render inoperable the remote control devices acquired by Subscribers.

## **SECTION 5.4 - STEREO TV TRANSMISSIONS**

All Broadcast Signals that are transmitted to Franchisee's headend in stereo shall be transmitted in stereo to Subscribers.

# **SECTION 5.5 – CABLE CHANNELS FOR COMMERCIAL USE**

Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. 532, Franchisee shall make available channel capacity for commercial use by persons unaffiliated with the Franchisee. Rates for use of commercial leased access channels shall be negotiated between Franchisee and the commercial user in accordance with federal law.

# **PEG ACCESS CHANNEL(S)**

## **SECTION 6.1 - PEG ACCESS CHANNEL(S)**

- (a) Use of a channel for PEG Access Programming shall be provided in accordance with federal law, 47 U.S.C. 531, and as further set forth below. Franchisee does not relinquish its ownership of or ultimate right of control over a channel by making it available for PEG use. A PEG Access User whether an individual, educational or governmental user acquires no property or other interest by virtue of the use of a channel so designated, and may not rely on the continued use of a particular channel number, no matter how long the same channel may have been designated for such use. Franchisee shall not exercise editorial control over any public, educational, or governmental use of channel capacity, except Franchisee may refuse to transmit any public access program or portion of a public access program that contains obscenity, indecency, or nudity pursuant to Section 611 of the Cable Act. The Franchising Authority shall be responsible for developing, implementing, interpreting and enforcing rules for PEG Access Channel use which shall ensure that PEG Access Channel(s) and PEG Access equipment will be available on a first-come non-discriminatory basis.
- (b) Franchisee shall continue to provide to the Town two (2) channel(s) for PEG Access Programming purposes. A PEG Access Channel may not be used to cablecast for-profit, political or commercial fundraising programs in any fashion. Unused capacity may be utilized by Franchisee subject to the provisions set forth in subsection (c) below.
- (c) In the event the Franchising Authority or other PEG Access User elects not to fully program a PEG Access Channel(s) with original PEG Access Programming, Franchisee may reclaim any unused time on those channels.

#### SECTION 6.2- INTERCONNECTION WITH COMPETING CABLE FRANCHISEE

In the event a Franchise is issued by the Franchising Authority for a competing Franchise, the competing Franchise may not connect its system to Franchisee's current system for purposes of obtaining PEG Access Programming from the Franchisee's PEG Access channels without the prior written consent of the current Franchisee.

# **SECTION 6.3 – FRANCHISE RELATED COST**

The Franchising Authority acknowledges that under the Cable Act, certain costs, including but not limited to costs of PEG Access, the cost to construct video return lines from and to video origination sites, the cost to activate a PEG channel and the cost of other franchise requirements may be passed through to the Subscribers in accordance with applicable law.

#### SECTION 6.4 – PEG ACCESS PROGRAMMING INDEMNIFICATION

The Franchising Authority and/or the Access Provider shall indemnify the Franchisee for any liability, loss or damage it may suffer due to violation of the intellectual property rights of third parties or arising out of the content of programming aired on any PEG channel and from claims arising out of the Franchising Authority's rules for or administration of PEG Access Programming.

## **SECTION 6.5 – PEG ACCESS CABLECASTING**

(a) In order that PEG Access Programming can be cablecast over Franchisee's downstream PEG Access Channel, all PEG Access Programming shall be transported using video/audio over fiber equipment or other methods already in place then transmitted from an origination location listed in **Exhibit C** to Franchisee-owned headend or hub-site on a Franchisee-owned upstream channel made available to the Town for its use. At Franchisee-owned headend, said PEG Access Programming shall be retransmitted in the downstream direction on one Franchisee-owned Subscriber Network downstream PEG Access Channels. Any construction of additional video return lines or origination sites, and/or the activation of any additional PEG

channels shall be paid for by the Town. Said payment shall be made in advance to the Franchisee subject to the provision to the Town by the Franchisee of a detailed estimate of said cost.

- (b) Franchisee shall provide and maintain all necessary switching and/or processing equipment located at its hub-site or headend in order to switch upstream signals carrying PEG Access Programming from the location(s) listed in **Exhibit C** to the designated Franchisee-owned Subscriber Network downstream PEG Access Channel.
- (c) Franchisee shall own, maintain, repair and/or replace any Franchisee-owned fiber links, IP encoders and network transport gear. The Town access provider shall own, maintain, repair and/or replace studio and/or portable modulators and demodulators. The demarcation point between Franchisee's equipment and the Town or PEG Access provider's equipment shall be at the output of the Town and/or the PEG Access provider's modulator(s) at any of the origination locations in **Exhibit C**.

#### **SECTION 6.6 - PROGRAMMING EXCLUSIVITY AND NON-COMPETITION**

The Franchising Authority, or its designee, agrees that it will not use its designated PEG Access channel(s), equipment, or other facilities to provide for-profit commercial services which have the effect of competing with Franchisee's business. In addition, any Video Programming produced under the provisions of this Article 6 shall not be commercially distributed to a competing Multichannel Video Programming Distributor without the written consent of Franchisee.

# **CUSTOMER SERVICE & CONSUMER PROTECTION**

## **SECTION 7.1 - CUSTOMER SERVICE**

Franchisee shall comply with applicable customer service regulations of the FCC (47 CFR §76.309) as they exist or as they may be amended from time to time.

#### **SECTION 7.2 - CONSUMER COMPLAINTS**

Complaints by any Person as to the operation of the Cable System may be filed in writing with the Franchising Authority, which shall within ten (10) days forward copies of such complaints to the Franchisee. Franchisee will comply with RSA 53-C:3-d and RSA 53-C:3-e.

## **SECTION 7.3 - SERVICE INTERRUPTIONS**

Under Normal Operating Conditions, in the event that Franchisee's Cable Service to any Subscriber is completely interrupted for twenty-four (24) or more consecutive hours, Franchisee will grant such Subscriber a pro rata credit or rebate upon request, on a daily basis, of that portion of the Cable Service charge during the next consecutive billing cycle, or at its option, apply such credit to any outstanding balance then currently due.

#### **SECTION 7.4 - PROTECTION OF SUBSCRIBER PRIVACY**

Franchisee shall comply with all applicable federal and state privacy laws and regulations, including 47 U.S.C. 551 and regulations adopted pursuant thereto.

#### **SECTION 7.5 – PROPRIETARY INFORMATION**

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary set forth in this Franchise, Franchisee shall not be required to disclose information which it reasonably deems to be proprietary or confidential in nature. The Franchising Authority agrees to treat any information disclosed by Franchisee as

confidential and only to disclose it to those employees, representatives, and agents of the Franchising Authority that have a need to know in order to enforce this Franchise and who shall agree to maintain the confidentiality of all such information. Franchisee shall not be required to provide Subscriber information in violation of 47 U.S.C. 551 or any other applicable federal or state privacy law. For purposes of this Section, the terms "proprietary or confidential" include, but are not limited to, information relating to the Cable System design, customer lists, marketing plans, financial information unrelated to the calculation of franchise fees or rates pursuant to FCC rules, or other information that is reasonably determined by Franchisee to be competitively sensitive. In the event that the Franchising Authority receives a request under a state "sunshine," public records or similar law for the disclosure of information Franchisee has designated as confidential, trade secret or proprietary, the Franchising Authority shall notify Franchisee of such request and cooperate with Franchisee in opposing such request.

#### **SECTION 7.6 - EMPLOYEE IDENTIFICATION CARDS**

All of Franchisee's employees, including repair and sales personnel and contractors entering private property shall be required to carry an employee identification card issued by Franchisee.

#### **PRICES & CHARGES**

## **SECTION 8.1 - PRICES AND CHARGES**

(a) All rates, fees, charges, deposits and associated terms and conditions to be imposed by Franchisee or any affiliated Person for any Cable Service as of the Effective Date shall be in accordance with applicable FCC's rate regulations [47 U.S.C. 543]. Before any new or modified rate, fee, or charge is imposed, Franchisee shall follow the applicable FCC and State notice requirements and rules and notify affected Subscribers, which notice may be by any means permitted under applicable law. Nothing in this Renewal Franchise shall be construed to prohibit the reduction or waiver of charges in conjunction with promotional campaigns for the purpose of attracting or retaining Subscribers.

## **REGULATORY OVERSIGHT**

#### **SECTION 9.1 - INDEMNIFICATION**

Franchisee shall indemnify, defend and hold harmless the Franchising Authority, its officers, employees, and agents from and against any liability or claims resulting from property damage or bodily injury (including accidental death) that arise out of Franchisee's construction, operation, maintenance or removal of the Cable System, including, but not limited to, reasonable attorney's fees and costs, provided that the Franchising Authority shall give Franchisee written notice of its obligation to indemnify and defend the Franchising Authority within timely receipt of a claim or action pursuant to this Section. If the Franchising Authority determines that it is necessary for it to employ separate counsel, the costs for such separate counsel shall be the responsibility of the Franchising Authority

#### **SECTION 9.2 - INSURANCE**

(a) Franchisee shall carry Commercial General Liability insurance throughout the term of this Renewal Franchise and any removal period with an insurance company authorized to conduct business in New Hampshire protecting, as required in this Renewal Franchise, Franchisee and listing the Town as an additional insured, against any and all claims for injury or damage to persons or property, both real and personal, caused by the construction, installation, operation, maintenance or removal of its Cable System. The amount of such insurance against liability for personal injury and property damage shall be no less than One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000) as to any one occurrence. The amount of such insurance for excess liability shall be Five Million Dollars (\$5,000,000) in umbrella form. (b) Franchisee shall carry insurance against all claims arising out of the operation of motor vehicles in the amount of One Million Dollars

(\$1,000,000) combined single limit for bodily injury and consequent death and property damage per occurrence;

(c) All insurance coverage, including Workers' Compensation, shall be maintained throughout the period of this Renewal Franchise. All expenses incurred for said insurance shall be at the sole expense of Franchisee. (d) Franchisee shall upon request provide Franchising Authority with certificate(s) of insurance for all policies required herein.

## **SECTION 9.3 - PERFORMANCE BOND**

- (a) Franchisee has submitted and shall maintain throughout the duration of this Renewal Franchise and any removal period a performance bond in the amount of Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000) running to the Town with a surety company satisfactory to the Franchising Authority to guarantee the following terms:
  - (i) The satisfactory completion of the installation and operation of the Cable System in the time schedule provided herein;
  - (ii) The satisfactory restoration of pavements, sidewalks and other improvements;
  - (iii) The indemnity of the Town; and
  - (iv) The satisfactory removal or other disposition of the Cable System.
- (b) The Franchisee shall not reduce the amount or cancel said bond from the provisions of Section 9.3 (a) herein without the Franchising Authority's prior written consent. The Franchising Authority shall not unreasonably withhold its consent.

## **SECTION 9.4 - FRANCHISE FEE**

(a) Franchisee shall continue to pay a Franchise Fee to the Town equal to three percent (3%) of its Gross Annual Revenue. The Franchising Authority reserves the right to increase the

franchise fee to Five Percent (5%) or the maximum permitted by law, providing the Franchising Authority provides at least ninety (90) days advance written notice to the Franchisee.

- (b) The Franchise Fee shall be paid quarterly no later than 60 days after the end of the Franchisee's fiscal quarters for the preceding quarter. The first payment will be due no later than March 1, 2019 for the period of the effective date through December 31, 2018. Quarterly thereafter, Franchisee shall provide payments no later than each June 1<sup>st</sup>, September 1<sup>st</sup>, December 1<sup>st</sup> and March 1<sup>st</sup>. The final payment will be made no later than December 1, 2028 for the period of July 1, 2028 through September 30, 2028.
- (c) In accordance with Section 622(b) of the Cable Act, Franchisee shall not be liable for a total financial commitment pursuant to this Renewal Franchise and applicable law in excess of five percent (5%) of its Gross Annual Revenues; provided, however, that said five percent (5%) shall include (i) any funding provided by Franchisee to the Franchising Authority, or its designee(s), to be used for PEG Access operations, (ii) any amounts included in the term "Franchise Fee" pursuant to Section 622(g)(l) of the Cable Act, but shall not include (i) interest due herein to the Franchising Authority because of late payments; and (ii) any other exclusion to the term "Franchisee Fee" pursuant to Section 622(g)(2) of the Cable Act. .

## **SECTION 9.5 - REPORTS**

Franchisee shall maintain for public inspection all records required by the FCC and as specified in 47 CFR §76.305 in the manner prescribed therein.

## **SECTION 9.6 - EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY**

Franchisee is an Equal Opportunity Employer and shall comply with applicable FCC regulations with respect to Equal Employment Opportunities.

#### **SECTION 9.7 - REVOCATION OF FRANCHISE**

Upon written notice, the Franchise issued hereunder may, after due process pursuant to opportunity to cure (Section 9.8) and public hearing held by the Franchising Authority, subject to any other rights available to Franchisee, be revoked by the Franchising Authority for any of the following reasons:

- (a) For failure to file and maintain the performance bond as described in Section 9.3 (Performance Bond) or to maintain insurance as described in Section 9.2 (Insurance);
- (b) For repeated failure to maintain signal quality pursuant to the standards provided for by the FCC;
- (c) For any transfer or assignment of the Renewal Franchise without prior notice to the Franchising Authority in violation of Section 9.9 herein; and
- (d) For repeated failure to comply with the material terms and conditions of this Renewal Franchise.

#### **SECTION 9.8 - NOTICE AND OPPORTUNITY TO CURE**

In the event that the Franchising Authority has reason to believe that Franchisee has defaulted in the performance of any or several provisions of this Renewal Franchise, except as excused by Force Majeure, the Franchising Authority shall notify Franchisee in writing, by certified mail, of the provision or provisions which the Franchising Authority believes may have been in default and the details relating thereto. Franchisee shall have forty-five(45) days from the receipt of such notice to:

- (a) respond to the Franchising Authority in writing, contesting the Franchising Authority's assertion of default and providing such information or documentation as may be necessary to support Franchisee's position; or
- (b) cure any such default (and provide written evidence of the same), or, in the event that by nature of the default, such default cannot be cured within such ninety (90) day period, to take reasonable steps to cure said default and diligently continue such efforts until said default is

cured. Franchisee shall report to the Franchising Authority, in writing, by certified mail, at forty-five (45) day intervals as to Franchisee's efforts, indicating the steps taken by Franchisee to cure said default and reporting Franchisee's progress until such default is cured.

- (c) In the event that (i) Franchisee fails to respond to such notice of default; and/or (ii) Franchisee fails to cure the default or to take reasonable steps to cure the default within the required ninety (90) day period; the Franchising Authority or its designee shall promptly schedule a public hearing no sooner than fourteen (14) days after written notice, by certified mail, to Franchisee. Franchisee shall be provided reasonable opportunity to offer evidence, question witnesses, if any, and be heard at such public hearing.
- (d) Within thirty (30) days after said public hearing, the Franchising Authority shall issue a written determination of its findings. In the event that the Franchising Authority determines that Franchisee is in such default, the Franchising Authority may determine to pursue any lawful remedy available to it.
- (e) In the event that (i) the Franchising Authority fails to issue a written reply within 30 days accepting or rejecting Franchisees' response pursuant to 9.8(a) above; (ii) the Franchising Authority fails to issue a written acknowledgement after Franchisee's notice that it cured said default pursuant to 9.8(b) above; and/or (iii) the Franchising Authority fails to schedule a public hearing no later than thirty (30) days of having sent a written notice consistent with Section 9.8(c) above and/or (iv) the Franchising authority fails to issue a written determination with thirty (30) days after the public hearing pursuant to Section 9.8(d) above, then the issue of said default against Franchisee by the Franchising Authority shall be considered null and void.

#### **SECTION 9.9 - TRANSFER OR ASSIGNMENT**

This Renewal Franchise shall not be transferred or assigned without the prior written notice to the Franchising Authority. No notice shall be required, however for (i) a transfer in trust, by mortgage, hypothecation, or by assignment of any rights, title, or interest of Franchisee

in the Franchise or in the Cable System in order to secure indebtedness or (ii) a transfer to an entity directly or indirectly owned or controlled by Comcast Corporation.

## **SECTION 9.10 - REMOVAL OF SYSTEM**

Upon termination of this Franchise Renewal or of denial of any renewal hereof by passage of time or otherwise in accordance with applicable law and after all appeals from any judicial determination are exhausted and final, Franchisee shall remove its supporting structures, poles, transmission and distribution systems and other appurtenances from the streets, ways, lanes, alleys, parkways, bridges, highways, and other public and private places in, over, under, or along which they are installed and shall restore the areas to their original condition. If such removal is not completed within six (6) months of such termination, the Franchising Authority or property owner may deem any property not removed as having been abandoned. Notwithstanding the above, Franchisee shall not be required to remove its Cable System, or to relocate the Cable System, or to sell the Cable System, or any portion thereof as a result of termination, denial of renewal, or any other lawful action to forbid or disallow Franchisee from providing Cable Service, if the Cable System is actively being used to facilitate any other services not governed by the Cable Act.

#### **SECTION 9.11 - INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE**

All presently and hereafter applicable conditions and requirements of federal, state and generally applicable local laws, including but not limited to the rules and regulations of the FCC and the State of New Hampshire, as they may be amended from time to time, are incorporated herein by reference, to the extent not enumerated herein. However, no such general laws, rules, regulations and codes, as amended, may alter the obligations, interpretation and performance of this Franchise Agreement to the extent that any provision of this Franchise Agreement conflicts with or is inconsistent with such laws, rules or regulations.

# **SECTION 9.12- NO THIRD PARTY BENEFICIARIES**

Nothing in this Renewal Franchise is intended to confer third-party beneficiary status on any member of the public to enforce the terms of this Renewal Franchise.

#### **MISCELLANEOUS**

## **SECTION 10.1 - SEVERABILITY**

If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, or other portion of this Renewal Franchise is, for any reason, declared invalid, in whole or in part, by any court, agency, commission, legislative body, or other authority of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct, and independent portion. Such declaration shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions hereof, which other portions shall continue in full force and effect.

#### **SECTION 10.2 - FORCE MAJEURE**

If for any reason of force majeure Franchisee is unable in whole or in part to carry out its obligations hereunder, said Franchisee shall not be deemed in violation or default during the continuance of such inability. Unless further limited elsewhere in this Renewal Franchise, the term "force majeure" as used herein shall have the following meaning: strikes; acts of god; acts of public enemies, orders of any kind of the government of the United States of America or of the State of New Hampshire or any of their departments, agencies, political subdivisions, or officials, or any civil or military authority; insurrections; riots, epidemics; landslides; lightning; earthquakes; tornados; fires; hurricanes; volcanic activity; storms; floods; washouts; droughts, arrests; civil disturbances; explosions; partial or entire failure of utilities; unavailability of materials and/or essential equipment, environmental restrictions or any other cause or event not reasonably within Franchisee's control.

#### **SECTION 10.3 - NOTICES**

(a) Every notice to be served upon the Franchising Authority shall be delivered or sent by certified mail (postage prepaid) to the following address or such other address as the Franchising Authority may specify in writing to Franchisee.

Town Nottingham
Attn: Board of Selectmen
65 Main Street
Nottingham, NH 038566

(b) Every notice served upon Franchisee shall be delivered or sent by certified mail (postage prepaid) or via nationally recognized overnight courier service to the following address or such other address as Franchisee may specify in writing to the Franchising Authority.

Comcast Cable Communications, Inc. Attn: Government & Regulatory Affairs 181 Ballardvale St. Wilmington, MA 01887

with copies to:

Comcast Cable Communications, Inc.
Attn: Vice President, Government Relations
676 Island Pond Road
Manchester, NH 03109

Comcast Cable Communications, Inc. Attn: Government Affairs One Comcast Center Philadelphia, PA 19103

(c) Delivery of such notices shall be equivalent to direct personal notice, direction or order, and shall be deemed to have been given at the time of receipt.

## **SECTION 10.4 - ENTIRE AGREEMENT**

This instrument contains the entire agreement between the parties, supersedes all prior agreements or proposals except as specifically incorporated herein, and cannot be changed without written amendment following publication of the proposed amendment in a manner consistent with the publication and notice provisions of RSA Chapter 43.

#### **SECTION 10.5 - CAPTIONS**

The captions to sections throughout this Renewal Franchise are intended solely to facilitate reading and reference to the sections and provisions of the Renewal Franchise. Such sections shall not affect the meaning or interpretation of the Renewal Franchise.

#### **SECTION 10.6 - WARRANTIES**

Franchisee warrants, represents and acknowledges that, as of the Effective Date of this Franchisee Renewal:

- (a) Franchisee is duly organized, validly existing and in good standing under the laws of the State;
- (b) Franchisee has the requisite power and authority under applicable law and its by-laws and articles of incorporation and/or other organizational documents, is authorized by resolutions of its Board of Directors or other governing body, and has secured all consents which are required to be obtained as of the date of execution of this Franchise Renewal, to enter into and legally bind Franchisee to this Franchise Renewal and to take all actions necessary to perform all of its obligations pursuant to this Franchise Renewal;
- (c) This Franchise Renewal is enforceable against Franchisee in accordance with the provisions herein; and
- (d) There is no action or proceedings pending or threatened against Franchisee which would interfere with performance of this Franchise Renewal.

# **SECTION 10.7 - APPLICABILITY OF RENEWAL FRANCHISE**

All of the provisions in this Renewal Franchise shall apply to the Town, Franchisee, and their respective successors and assigns.

# **SIGNATURE PAGE**

WITNESS OUR HANDS AND OFF	ICIAL SEAL, THIS <u>ZANO</u> DAY OF
OLABER 20/B.	
7	
	TOWN OF NOTTINGHAM, NH By:
	Chairman, Board of Selectmen
	Sattley in
	Board of Selectmen

COMCAST OF MAINE/NEW HAMPSHIRE, INC.

By:

Tracy L. Pitcher, Sr. Vice President

**Greater Boston Region** 

# **EXHIBIT A**

# **PUBLIC BUILDINGS ON THE CABLE SYSTEM**

Library	129 Stage Road
Town Hall	139 Stage Road
Police Department	139 Stage Road
Fire Department	235 Stage Road
Highway Department	3 Flutter Street
Nottingham School	245 Stage Road

## **EXHIBIT B**

## **PROGRAMMING**

Franchisee shall provide the following broad categories of Video Programming:

- News Programming;
- Sports Programming;
- Public Affairs Programming;
- Children's Programming;
- Entertainment Programming; and
- Local Programming.

# **EXHIBIT C**

# **VIDEO ORGINATION LOCATIONS**

Town Hall 139 Stage Road

Nottingham School 245 Stage Road