# COMCAST OF COLORADO IX, LLC AND THE TOWN OF CASTLE ROCK, COLORADO

# CABLE FRANCHISE AGREEMENT

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# COMCAST OF COLORADO IX, LLC AND TOWN OF CASTLE ROCK, COLORADO CABLE FRANCHISE AGREEMENT

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

# (A) **DEFINITIONS**

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

- 1.1 "Access" means the availability for noncommercial use by various agencies, institutions, organizations, groups and individuals in the community, including the Town and its designees of the Cable System to acquire, create, receive, and distribute video Cable Services and other services and signals as permitted under Applicable Law including, but not limited to:
  - (A) "Public Access" means Access where community-based, noncommercial organizations, groups or individual members of the general public, on a nondiscriminatory basis, are the primary users.
  - (B) "Educational Access" means Access where schools are the primary users having editorial control over programming and services. For purposes of this definition, "school" means any State-accredited educational institution, public or private, including, for example, primary and secondary schools, colleges and universities.
  - (C) "Government Access" means Access where governmental institutions or their designees are the primary users having editorial control over programming and services.
- 1.2 "Access Channel" means any Channel, or portion thereof, designated for Access purposes or otherwise made available to facilitate or transmit Access programming or services.
- 1.3 "Activated" means the status of any capacity or part of the Cable System in which any Cable Service requiring the use of that capacity or part is available without further installation of system equipment, whether hardware or software.
- 1.4 "Affiliate," when used in connection with Grantee, means any Person who owns or controls, is owned or controlled by, or is under common ownership or control with, Grantee.
- 1.5 "Applicable Law" means any statute, ordinance, judicial decision, executive order or regulation having the force and effect of law, that determines the legal standing of a case or issue.
- 1.6 "Bad Debt" means amounts lawfully billed to a Subscriber and owed by the Subscriber for

Cable Service and accrued as revenues on the books of Grantee, but not collected after reasonable efforts have been made by Grantee to collect the charges.

- 1.7 "Basic Service" is the level of programming service which includes, at a minimum, all Broadcast Channels, all PEG SD Access Channels required in this Franchise, and any additional Programming added by the Grantee, and is made available to all Cable Services Subscribers in the Franchise Area.
- 1.8 "<u>Broadcast Channel</u>" means local commercial television stations, qualified low power stations and qualified local noncommercial educational television stations, as referenced under 47 USC § 534 and 535.
- 1.9 "<u>Broadcast Signal</u>" means a television or radio signal transmitted over the air to a wide geographic audience, and received by a Cable System by antenna, microwave, satellite dishes or any other means.
- 1.10 "Cable Act" means the Title VI of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended.
- 1.11 "<u>Cable Operator</u>" means any Person or groups of Persons, including Grantee, who provide(s) Cable Service over a Cable System and directly or through one or more affiliates owns a significant interest in such Cable System or who otherwise control(s) or is (are) responsible for, through any arrangement, the management and operation of such a Cable System.
- 1.12 "<u>Cable Service</u>" means the one-way transmission to Subscribers of video programming or other programming service, and Subscriber interaction, if any, which is required for the selection or use of such video programming or other programming service.
- 1.13 "Cable System" means any facility, including Grantee's, consisting of a set of closed transmissions paths and associated signal generation, reception, and control equipment that is designed to provide Cable Service which includes video programming and which is provided to multiple Subscribers within a community, but such term does not include (A) a facility that serves only to retransmit the television signals of one or more television broadcast stations; (B) a facility that serves Subscribers without using any Right-of-Way; (C) a facility of a common carrier which is subject, in whole or in part, to the provisions of Title II of the federal Communications Act (47 U.S.C. 201 et seq.), except that such facility shall be considered a Cable System (other than for purposes of Section 621(c) (47 U.S.C. 541(c)) to the extent such facility is used in the transmission of video programming directly to Subscribers, unless the extent of such use is solely to provide interactive on-demand services; (D) an open video system that complies with federal statutes; or (E) any facilities of any electric utility used solely for operating its electric utility systems.
- 1.14 "<u>Channel</u>" means a portion of the electromagnetic frequency spectrum which is used in the Cable System and which is capable of delivering a television channel (as television channel is defined by the FCC by regulation).
- 1.15 "Colorado Communications and Utility Alliance" or "CCUA" means the non-profit entity formed by franchising authorities and/or local governments in Colorado or its successor entity,

whose purpose is, among other things, to communicate with regard to franchising matters collectively and cooperatively.

- 1.16 "Commercial Subscribers" means any Subscribers other than Residential Subscribers.
- 1.17 "<u>Designated Access Provider</u>" means the entity or entities designated now or in the future by the Town to manage or co-manage Access Channels and facilities. The Town may be a Designated Access Provider.
- 1.18 "<u>Digital Starter Service</u>" means the Tier of optional video programming services, which is the level of Cable Service received by most Subscribers above Basic Service, and does not include Premium Services.
- 1.19 "<u>Downstream</u>" means carrying a transmission from the Headend to remote points on the Cable System or to Interconnection points on the Cable System.
- 1.20 "<u>Dwelling Unit</u>" means any building, or portion thereof, that has independent living facilities, including provisions for cooking, sanitation and sleeping, and that is designed for residential occupancy. Buildings with more than one set of facilities for cooking shall be considered Multiple Dwelling Units unless the additional facilities are clearly accessory.
- 1.21 "FCC" means the Federal Communications Commission.
- 1.22 "<u>Fiber Optic</u>" means a transmission medium of optical fiber cable, along with all associated electronics and equipment, capable of carrying Cable Service by means of electric lightwave impulses.
- 1.23 "<u>Franchise</u>" means the document in which this definition appears, *i.e.*, the contractual agreement, executed between the Town and Grantee, containing the specific provisions of the authorization granted, including references, specifications, requirements and other related matters.
- 1.24 "<u>Franchise Area</u>" means the area within the jurisdictional boundaries of the Town, including any areas annexed by the Town during the term of this Franchise.
- 1.25 "Franchise Fee" means that fee payable to the Town described in subsection 3.1 (A).
- 1.26 "Grantee" means Comcast of Colorado IX, LLC or its lawful successor, transferee or assignee.
- 1.27 "Gross Revenues" means, and shall be construed broadly to include all revenues derived directly or indirectly by Grantee and/or an Affiliated Entity that is the cable operator of the Cable System, from the operation of Grantee's Cable System to provide Cable Services within the Town. Gross revenues include, by way of illustration and not limitation:
  - monthly fees for Cable Services, regardless of whether such Cable Services are provided to residential or commercial customers, including revenues derived from

the provision of all Cable Services (including but not limited to pay or premium Cable Services, digital Cable Services, pay-per-view, pay-per-event and video-on-demand Cable Services);

- installation, reconnection, downgrade, upgrade or similar charges associated with changes in subscriber Cable Service levels;
- fees paid to Grantee for channels designated for commercial/leased access use and shall be allocated on a pro rata basis using total Cable Service subscribers within the Town;
- converter, remote control, and other Cable Service equipment rentals, leases, or sales;
- Advertising Revenues as defined herein;
- late fees, convenience fees and administrative fees which shall be allocated on a pro rata basis using Cable Services revenue as a percentage of total subscriber revenues within the Town;
- revenues from program guides;
- Franchise Fees;
- FCC Regulatory Fees; and,
- commissions from home shopping channels and other Cable Service revenue sharing arrangements which shall be allocated on a pro rata basis using total Cable Service subscribers within the Town.
- (A) "Advertising Revenues" shall mean revenues derived from sales of advertising that are made available to Grantee's Cable System subscribers within the Town and shall be allocated on a pro rata basis using total Cable Service subscribers reached by the advertising. Additionally, Grantee agrees that Gross Revenues subject to franchise fees shall include all commissions, rep fees, Affiliated Entity fees, or rebates paid to National Cable Communications ("NCC") and Comcast Spotlight ("Spotlight") or their successors associated with sales of advertising on the Cable System within the Town allocated according to this paragraph using total Cable Service subscribers reached by the advertising.
  - (B) "Gross Revenues" shall not include:
    - actual bad debt write-offs, except any portion which is subsequently collected which shall be allocated on a *pro rata* basis using Cable Services revenue as a percentage of total subscriber revenues within the Town;
    - any taxes and/or fees on services furnished by Grantee imposed by any

municipality, State or other governmental unit, provided that Franchise Fees and the FCC regulatory fee shall not be regarded as such a tax or fee;

- fees imposed by any municipality, State or other governmental unit on Grantee including but not limited to Public, Educational and Governmental (PEG) Fees;
- launch fees and marketing co-op fees; and,
- unaffiliated third-party advertising sales agency fees which are reflected as a deduction from revenues.
- (C) To the extent revenues are received by Grantee for the provision of a discounted bundle of services which includes Cable Services and non-Cable Services, Grantee shall calculate revenues to be included in Gross Revenues using a methodology that allocates revenue on a *pro rata* basis when comparing the bundled service price and its components to the sum of the published rate card, except as required by specific federal, State or local law, it is expressly understood that equipment may be subject to inclusion in the bundled price at full rate card value. This calculation shall be applied to every bundled service package containing Cable Service from which Grantee derives revenues in the Town. The Town reserves its right to review and to challenge Grantee's calculations.
- (D) Grantee reserves the right to change the allocation methodologies set forth in this Section 1.27 in order to meet the standards required by governing accounting principles as promulgated and defined by the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB"), Emerging Issues Task Force ("EITF") and/or the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC"). Grantee will explain and document the required changes to the Town within three months of making such changes, and as part of any audit or review of franchise fee payments, and any such changes shall be subject to 1.27(E) below.
- (E) Resolution of any disputes over the classification of revenue should first be attempted by agreement of the Parties, but should no resolution be reached, the Parties agree that reference shall be made to generally accepted accounting principles ("GAAP") as promulgated and defined by the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB"), Emerging Issues Task Force ("EITF") and/or the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC"). Notwithstanding the forgoing, the Town reserves its right to challenge Grantee's calculation of Gross Revenues, including the interpretation of GAAP as promulgated and defined by the FASB, EITF and/or the SEC.
- 1.28 "<u>Headend</u>" means any facility for signal reception and dissemination on a Cable System, including cables, antennas, wires, satellite dishes, monitors, switchers, modulators, processors for Broadcast Signals, equipment for the Interconnection of the Cable System with adjacent Cable Systems and Interconnection of any networks which are part of the Cable System, and all other related equipment and facilities.
- 1.29 "Leased Access Channel" means any Channel or portion of a Channel commercially

available for video programming by Persons other than Grantee, for a fee or charge.

- 1.30 "Manager" means the Town Manager of the Town or designee.
- 1.31 "Person" means any individual, sole proprietorship, partnership, association, or corporation, or any other form of entity or organization.
- 1.32 "<u>Premium Service</u>" means programming choices (such as movie Channels, pay-per-view programs, or video on demand) offered to Subscribers on a per-Channel, per-program or per-event basis.
- 1.33 "Residential Subscriber" means any Person who receives Cable Service delivered to Dwelling Units or Multiple Dwelling Units, excluding such Multiple Dwelling Units billed on a bulk-billing basis.
- 1.34 "Right-of-Way" means each of the following which have been dedicated to the public or are hereafter dedicated to the public and maintained under public authority or by others and located within the Town: streets, roadways, highways, avenues, lanes, alleys, bridges, sidewalks, easements, rights-of-way and similar public property and areas.
- 1.35 "State" means the State of Colorado.
- 1.36 "Subscriber" means any Person who or which elects to subscribe to, for any purpose, Cable Service provided by Grantee by means of or in connection with the Cable System and whose premises are physically wired and lawfully Activated to receive Cable Service from Grantee's Cable System, and who is in compliance with Grantee's regular and nondiscriminatory terms and conditions for receipt of service.
- 1.37 "<u>Subscriber Network</u>" means that portion of the Cable System used primarily by Grantee in the transmission of Cable Services to Residential Subscribers.
- 1.38 "<u>Telecommunications</u>" means the transmission, between or among points specified by the user, of information of the user's choosing, without change in the form or content of the information as sent and received (as provided in 47 U.S.C. Section 153(43)).
- 1.39 "<u>Telecommunications Service</u>" means the offering of Telecommunications for a fee directly to the public, or to such classes of users as to be effectively available directly to the public, regardless of the facilities used (as provided in 47 U.S.C. Section 153(46)).
- 1.40 "Tier" means a group of Channels for which a single periodic subscription fee is charged.
- 1.41 "Town" is the Town of Castle Rock, Colorado, a body politic and corporate under the laws of the State of Colorado.
- 1.42 "Town Council" means the Town Council or its successor, the governing body of the Town of Castle Rock, Colorado.

- 1.43 "Two-Way" means that the Cable System is capable of providing both Upstream and Downstream transmissions.
- 1.44 "<u>Upstream</u>" means carrying a transmission to the Headend from remote points on the Cable System or from Interconnection points on the Cable System.

# (B) EXHIBITS

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

(1) *Exhibit A*, titled Report Form.

#### SECTION 2. GRANT OF FRANCHISE

#### 2.1 Grant

- (A) The Town hereby grants to Grantee a nonexclusive authorization to make reasonable and lawful use of the Rights-of-Way within the Town to construct, operate, maintain, reconstruct and rebuild a Cable System for the purpose of providing Cable Service subject to the terms and conditions set forth in this Franchise and in any prior utility or use agreements entered into by Grantee with regard to any individual property. This Franchise shall constitute both a right and an obligation to provide the Cable Services required by, and to fulfill the obligations set forth in, the provisions of this Franchise.
- (B) Nothing in this Franchise shall be deemed to waive the lawful requirements of any generally applicable Town ordinance existing as of the Effective Date, as defined in subsection 2.3.
- (C) Each and every term, provision or condition herein is subject to the provisions of State law, federal law, the Charter of the Town, and the ordinances and regulations enacted pursuant thereto. The Charter and Municipal Code of the Town, as the same may be amended from time to time, are hereby expressly incorporated into this Franchise as if fully set out herein by this reference. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Town may not unilaterally alter the material rights and obligations of Grantee under this Franchise.
- (D) This Franchise shall not be interpreted to prevent the Town from imposing additional lawful conditions, including additional compensation conditions, for use of the Rights-of-Way.
- (E) Grantee promises and guarantees, as a condition of exercising the privileges granted by this Franchise, that any Affiliate of the Grantee directly involved in the offering of Cable Service in the Franchise Area, or directly involved in the management or operation of the Cable System in the Franchise Area, will also comply with the obligations of this Franchise.

- (F) No rights shall pass to Grantee by implication. Without limiting the foregoing, by way of example and not limitation, this Franchise shall not include or be a substitute for:
  - (1) Any other permit or authorization required for the privilege of transacting and carrying on a business within the Town that may be required by the Town's ordinances and laws;
  - (2) Any permit, agreement, or authorization required by the Town for Right-of-Way users in connection with operations on or in Rights-of-Way or public property including, by way of example and not limitation, street cut permits; or
  - (3) Any permits or agreements for occupying any other property of the Town or private entities to which access is not specifically granted by this Franchise including, without limitation, permits and agreements for placing devices on poles, in conduits or in or on other structures.
- (G) This Franchise is intended to convey limited rights and interests only as to those Rights-of-Way in which the Town has an actual interest. It is not a warranty of title or interest in any Right-of-Way; it does not provide the Grantee with any interest in any particular location within the Right-of-Way; and it does not confer rights other than as expressly provided in the grant hereof.

# 2.2 Use of Rights-of-Way

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

# 2.3 Effective Date and Term of Franchise

This Franchise and the rights, privileges and authority granted hereunder shall take effect on November 14, 2024 (the "Effective Date"), and shall terminate on November 14, 2034, unless terminated sooner as hereinafter provided.

### 2.4 Franchise Nonexclusive

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

### 2.5 Police Powers

Grantee's rights hereunder are subject to the police powers of the Town to adopt and enforce ordinances necessary to the safety, health, and welfare of the public, and Grantee agrees to comply with all laws and ordinances of general applicability enacted, or hereafter enacted, by the Town or any other legally constituted governmental unit having lawful jurisdiction over the subject matter hereof. The Town shall have the right to adopt, from time to time, such ordinances as may be deemed necessary in the exercise of its police power. The Grantee reserves the right to challenge any ordinance(s) it believes are not a generally applicable exercise of Town's police powers. Any conflict between the provisions of this Franchise and any other present or future lawful exercise of the Town's police powers shall be resolved in favor of the latter.

# 2.6 Competitive Equity

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

Video programming services (as defined in the Cable Act) delivered over wireless broadband networks are specifically exempted from the requirements of this Section.

- (B) The modification process of this Franchise as provided for in Section 2.6 (A) shall only be initiated by written notice by the Grantee to the Town regarding specified franchise obligations. Grantee's notice shall address the following: (1) identifying the specific terms or conditions in the competitive cable services franchise which are materially different from Grantee's obligations under this Franchise; (2) identifying the Franchise terms and conditions for which Grantee is seeking amendments; (3) providing text for any proposed Franchise amendments to the Town, with a written explanation of why the proposed amendments are necessary and consistent.
- (C) Upon receipt of Grantee's written notice as provided in Section 2.6 (B), the Town 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 90-day time period, unless that time period is reduced or extended by mutual agreement of the parties. If the Town and Grantee reach agreement on the Franchise modifications pursuant to such negotiations, then the Town shall amend this Franchise to include the modifications.
- (D) In the alternative to Franchise modification negotiations as provided for in Section 2.6 (C), or if the Town and Grantee fail to reach agreement in such negotiations, Grantee may, at its option, elect to replace this Franchise by opting into the franchise or other similar lawful authorization that the Town 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, the Town shall immediately commence proceedings to replace this Franchise with the franchise issued to the other Cable Services provider.
- (E) Notwithstanding anything contained in this Section 2.6(A) through (D) to the contrary, the Town shall not be obligated to amend or replace this Franchise unless the new entrant makes Cable Services available for purchase by Subscribers or customers under its franchise agreement with the Town.
- (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 Town, then:
  - (1) Grantee may negotiate with the Town to seek Franchise modifications as per Section 2.6(C) above; or
    - (a) the term of Grantee's Franchise shall, upon ninety (90) days written notice from Grantee, be shortened so that the Franchise shall be deemed to expire on a date eighteen (18) months from the first day of the month following

the date of Grantee's notice; or,

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

### 2.7 Familiarity with Franchise

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

# 2.8 Effect of Acceptance

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

### SECTION 3. FRANCHISE FEE PAYMENT AND FINANCIAL CONTROLS

### 3.1 Franchise Fee

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

### 3.2 Payments

Grantee's Franchise Fee payments to the Town 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 45 days after said dates.

# 3.3 Acceptance of Payment and Recomputation

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

# 3.4 Quarterly Franchise Fee Reports

Each payment shall be accompanied by a written report to the Town, 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 60 days after the end of each year, furnish to the Town 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 30 days prior written notice, the Town, including the Town's Auditor or their 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 1.27, as part of the Franchise Fee audit/review the Town 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 Town subscribers during the audit period. To the extent that the Town does not believe that the relevant data supplied is sufficient for the Town to complete its audit/review, the Town may require other relevant data. For purposes of this Section 3.6, the "other relevant data" shall generally mean all: (1) billing reports, (2) financial reports (such as General Ledgers) and (3) sample customer bills used by Grantee to determine Gross Revenues for the Franchise Area that would allow the Town to recompute the Gross Revenue determination. If the audit/review shows that Franchise Fee payments have been underpaid by five percent 5% or more (or such other contract underpayment threshold as set forth in a generally applicable and enforceable regulation or policy of the Town related to audits), Grantee shall pay the total cost of the audit/review, such cost not to exceed \$7,500 for each year of the audit period. The Town's right to audit/review and the Grantee's obligation to retain records related to this subsection shall expire three years after each Franchise Fee payment has been made to the Town.

### 3.7 Late Payments

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

# 3.8 Underpayments

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

# 3.9 Alternative Compensation

In the event the obligation of Grantee to compensate the Town 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 Town's Rights-of-Way and compensation therefor.

# 3.10 Maximum Legal Compensation

The parties acknowledge that, at present, applicable federal law limits the Town to collection of a maximum permissible Franchise Fee of 5% of Gross Revenues. In the event that at any time during the duration of this Franchise, the Town is authorized to collect an amount in excess of 5% of Gross Revenues, then this Franchise may be amended unilaterally by the Town through the same process that the Franchise was adopted to provide that such excess amount shall be added to the Franchise Fee payments to be paid by Grantee to the Town hereunder, provided that Grantee has received at least 90 days prior written notice from the Town of such amendment, so long as all cable operators in the Town 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 Town 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 Town 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 Town with advance written notice. Such notice shall document the proposed offset or service charges so that the Town can make an informed decision as to its course of action. Upon receipt of such notice, the Town shall have up to 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 Town, 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 120-day time period for the Town 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 Town 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 120-day time period, unless that time period is reduced or extended by mutual agreement of the parties. If the Town and Grantee reach agreement on the Franchise modifications pursuant to such negotiations, then the Town shall amend this Franchise to include those modifications.
- (D) If the parties are unable to reach agreement on any Franchise Fee offset issue within 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 Town acknowledges that Grantee currently provides one outlet of Basic Service and Digital Starter Service and associated equipment to certain Town-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)-(E) above. The Town may make a separate election for each account or line of service identified in the notice (for example, the Town 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 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 Town.
- (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 Town 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. 05-311. Should there be a new Order in the 621 Proceeding, or any other change in Applicable Law, which would permit any cash or non-cash consideration or obligations to be required by this Franchise without being offset from Franchise Fees, or would change the scope of the Town's regulatory authority over the use of the rights-of-way by the Grantee, the parties shall, within 120 days of written notice from the Town, amend this Franchise to reinstate such consideration or obligations without offset from Franchise Fees, and to address the full scope of the Town's regulatory authority.

# 3.12 Tax Liability

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

### 3.13 Financial Records

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

# 3.14 Payment on Termination

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

# SECTION 4. ADMINISTRATION AND REGULATION

# 4.1 Authority

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

# 4.2 Rates and Charges

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

### 4.3 Rate Discrimination

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

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

# 4.4 Filing of Rates and Charges

- (A) Throughout the term of this Franchise, Grantee shall maintain on file with the Town a complete schedule of applicable rates and charges for Cable Services provided under this Franchise. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to require Grantee to file rates and charges under temporary reductions or waivers of rates and charges in conjunction with promotional campaigns.
- (B) Upon request of the Town, Grantee shall provide a complete schedule of current rates and charges for any and all Leased Access Channels, or portions of such Channels, provided by Grantee. The schedule shall include a description of the price, terms, and conditions established by Grantee for Leased Access Channels.

### 4.5 Cross Subsidization

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

# 4.6 Reserved Authority

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

### 4.7 Franchise Amendment Procedure

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

#### 4.8 Performance Evaluations

- (A) The Town may hold performance evaluation sessions upon 90 days written notice, provided that such evaluation sessions shall be held no more frequently than once every two years. All such evaluation sessions shall be conducted by the Town.
- (B) Special evaluation sessions may be held at any time by the Town during the term of this Franchise, upon 90 days written notice to Grantee.
- (C) All regular evaluation sessions shall be open to the public and announced at least two weeks in advance in any manner within the discretion of the Town. Grantee shall also include with or on the Subscriber billing statements for the billing period immediately preceding the commencement of the session, written notification of the date, time, and place of the regular performance evaluation session, and any special evaluation session as required by the Town,

provided Grantee receives appropriate advance notice.

- (D) Topics which may be discussed at any evaluation session may include, but are not limited to, Cable Service rate structures; Franchise Fee payments; liquidated damages; free or discounted Cable Services; application of new technologies; Cable System performance; Cable Services provided; programming offered; Subscriber complaints; privacy; amendments to this Franchise; judicial and FCC rulings; line extension policies; and the Town or Grantee's rules; provided that nothing in this subsection shall be construed as requiring the renegotiation of this Franchise.
- (E) During evaluations under this subsection, Grantee shall fully cooperate with the Town and shall provide such information and documents as the Town may reasonably require to perform the evaluation.

# 4.9 Late Fees

- (A) For purposes of this subsection, any assessment, charge, cost, fee or sum, however characterized, that the Grantee imposes upon a Subscriber solely for late payment of a bill is a late fee and shall be applied in accordance with the Town's Customer Service Standards, as the same may be amended from time to time by the Town Council acting by ordinance or resolution, or as the same may be superseded by Applicable Law.
- (B) Nothing in this subsection shall be deemed to create, limit or otherwise affect the ability of the Grantee, if any, to impose other assessments, charges, fees or sums other than those permitted by this subsection, for the Grantee's other services or activities it performs in compliance with Applicable Law, including FCC law, rule or regulation.
- (C) The Grantee's late fee and disconnection policies and practices shall be consistent with Applicable Law.

### 4.10 Force Majeure

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

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

# 4.11 Time Limits Strictly Construed

Whenever this Franchise sets forth a time for any act to be performed by Grantee, such time shall be deemed to be of the essence, and any failure of Grantee to perform within the allotted time may be considered a breach of this Franchise, and sufficient grounds for the Town to invoke any relevant remedy in accordance with Section 13.1 of this Franchise.

# SECTION 5. FINANCIAL AND INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS

### 5.1 Indemnification

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

expenses or other costs that the Town may incur if it chooses to participate in the defense of a claim, unless and until separate representation as described below in Paragraph 5.1(F) is required. In that event the provisions of Paragraph 5.1(F) shall govern Grantee's responsibility for the Town's attorney's fees, expenses or other costs. In any event, Grantee may not agree to any settlement of claims affecting the Town without the Town's approval.

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

### 5.2 Insurance

- (A) Grantee shall maintain in full force and effect at its own cost and expense each of the following policies of insurance, but in no event shall occurrence basis minimum limits be less than provided for by C.R.S. §24-10-114(1)(b):
  - (1) Commercial General Liability insurance with limits of no less than \$1 million per occurrence and \$3 million general aggregate. Coverage shall be at least as broad as that provided by ISO CG 00 01 1/96 or its equivalent and include severability of interests. Such insurance shall name the Town, its officers, officials and employees as additional insureds per ISO CG 2026 or its equivalent. There shall be a waiver of subrogation and rights of recovery against the Town, its officers, officials and employees. Coverage shall apply as to claims between insureds on the policy, if applicable.
  - (2) Commercial Automobile Liability insurance with minimum combined single limits of \$1 million each occurrence with respect to each of Grantee's owned, hired and non-owned vehicles assigned to or used in the operation of the Cable System in the Town. The policy shall contain a severability of interests provision.
  - (3) Statutory workers' compensation and employer's liability insurance in an amount of Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000) each accident/disease/policy limit.

(B) The insurance shall not be canceled or materially changed so as to be out of compliance with these requirements without 30 days' written notice first provided to the Town, via certified mail, and 10 days' notice for nonpayment of premium. If the insurance is canceled or materially altered so as to be out of compliance with the requirements of this subsection within the term of this Franchise, Grantee shall provide a replacement policy. Grantee agrees to maintain continuous uninterrupted insurance coverage, in at least the amounts required, for the duration of this Franchise and, in the case of the Commercial General Liability, for at least one year after expiration of this Franchise.

### 5.3 Deductibles / Certificate of Insurance

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

### (A) Endorsements.

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

otherwise required under this Section. The adequacy of self-insurance shall be subject to the periodic review and approval of the Town.

### 5.4 Letter of Credit

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

upon in accordance with this Franchise. Any funds the Town erroneously or wrongfully withdraws from the letter of credit shall be returned to Grantee with interest, from the date of withdrawal at a rate equal to the prime rate of interest as quoted in the Wall Street Journal.

### **SECTION 6. CUSTOMER SERVICE**

### 6.1 Customer Service Standards

Grantee shall comply with Customer Service Standards of the Town, as the same may be amended from time to time by the Town Council in its sole discretion. Any requirement in Customer Service Standards for a "local" telephone number may be met by the provision of a toll-free number. The Customer Services Standards in effect as of the Effective Date of this Franchise are contained in Section 5.16 of the Castle Rock Municipal Code. Grantee reserves the right to challenge any customer service standards which it believes is inconsistent with its contractual rights under this Franchise.

# 6.2 Subscriber Privacy

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

#### **6.3** Subscriber Contracts

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

### 6.4 Advance Notice to Town

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

### 6.5 Identification of Local Franchise Authority on Subscriber Bills

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

### SECTION 7. REPORTS AND RECORDS

# 7.1 Open Records

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

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

# 7.2 Confidentiality

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

# 7.3 Records Required

- (A) Grantee shall at all times maintain, and shall furnish to the Town upon 30 days written request and subject to Applicable Law:
  - (1) A complete set of maps showing the exact location of all Cable System equipment and facilities in the Right-of-Way but excluding detail on proprietary electronics contained therein and Subscriber drops. As-built maps including proprietary electronics shall be available at Grantee's offices for inspection by the Town's authorized representative(s) or agent(s) and made available to such during the course of technical inspections as reasonably conducted by the Town. These maps shall be certified as accurate by an appropriate representative of the Grantee;

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

# 7.4 Annual Reports

Within 60 days of the Town's written request, Grantee shall submit to the Town a written report, in a form acceptable to the Town, which shall include, but not necessarily be limited to, the following information for the Town:

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

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

# 7.5 Copies of Federal and State Reports

Within 30 days of a written request, Grantee shall submit to the Town copies of all pleadings, applications, notifications, communications and documents of any kind, submitted by Grantee or its parent corporation(s), to any federal, State or local courts, regulatory agencies and

other government bodies if such documents directly relate to the operations of Grantee's Cable System within the Town. Grantee shall not claim confidential, privileged or proprietary rights to such documents unless under federal, State, or local law such documents have been determined to be confidential by a court of competent jurisdiction, or a federal or State agency.

# 7.6 Complaint File and Reports

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

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

### 7.7 Failure to Report

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

### 7.8 False Statements

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

### **SECTION 8. PROGRAMMING**

# 8.1 Broad Programming Categories

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

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

# 8.2 Deletion or Reduction of Broad Programming Categories

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

# 8.3 Obscenity

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

### **8.4** Parental Control Device

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

# 8.5 Continuity of Service Mandatory

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

# 8.6 Services for People With Disabilities

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

# **SECTION 9. ACCESS**

# 9.1 Designated Access Providers

(A) The Town shall have the sole and exclusive responsibility for identifying the Designated Access Providers, including itself for Access purposes, to control and manage the use of any or all Access Facilities provided by Grantee under this Franchise. As used in this Section, such "Access Facilities" includes the Channels, services, facilities, equipment, technical components and/or financial support provided under this Franchise, which is used or useable by and for Public Access, Educational Access, and Government Access ("PEG" or "PEG Access").

(B) Grantee shall cooperate with the Town in the Town's efforts to provide Access programming, but will not be responsible or liable for any damages resulting from a claim in connection with the programming placed on the Access Channels by the Designated Access Provider.

# 9.2 Channel Capacity and Use

- (A) Grantee shall make available to Town two (2) Downstream Channels for PEG use as provided for in this Section.
- Grantee shall have the right to temporarily use any Channel, or portion thereof, which is allocated under this Section for Public, Educational, or Governmental Access use, within 60 days after a written request for such use is submitted to the Town, if such Channel is not "fully utilized" as defined herein. A Channel shall be considered fully utilized if substantially unduplicated programming is delivered over it more than an average of 38 hours per week over a six-month period. Programming that is repeated on an Access Channel up to two times per day shall be considered "unduplicated programming." Character-generated programming shall be included for purposes of this subsection, but may be counted toward the total average hours only with respect to two Channels provided to the Town. If a Channel allocated for Public, Educational, or Governmental Access use will be used by Grantee in accordance with the terms of this subsection, the institution to which the Channel has been allocated shall have the right to require the return of the Channel or portion thereof. The Town shall request return of such Channel space by delivering written notice to Grantee stating that the institution is prepared to fully utilize the Channel, or portion thereof, in accordance with this subsection. In such event, the Channel or portion thereof shall be returned to such institution within 60 days after receipt by Grantee of such written notice.

# (C) Standard Definition ("SD") Digital Access Channels.

- (1) Grantee shall provide one Activated Downstream Channel for PEG Access use in a standard definition ("SD") digital format in Grantee's Basic Service ("SD Access Channel"). Grantee shall carry all components of the SD Access Channel Signals provided by a Designated Access Provider including, but not limited to, closed captioning, stereo audio and other elements associated with the Programming. A Designated Access Provider shall be responsible for providing the SD Access Channel Signal in an SD format to the demarcation point at the designated point of origination for the SD Access Channel. Grantee shall transport and distribute the SD Access Channel signal on its Cable System and shall not unreasonably discriminate against SD Access Channels with respect to accessibility, functionality and to the application of any applicable Federal Communications Commission Rules & Regulations, including without limitation Subpart K Channel signal standards.
- (2) With respect to signal quality, Grantee shall not be required to carry a SD Access Channel in a higher quality format than that of the SD Access Channel signal delivered to Grantee, but Grantee shall distribute the SD Access Channel signal without

degradation. Upon reasonable written request by a Designated Access Provider, Grantee shall verify signal delivery to Subscribers with the Designated Access Provider, consistent with the requirements of this Section 9.2(C).

- (3) Grantee shall be responsible for costs associated with the transmission of SD Access signals on its side of the demarcation point which for the purposes of this Section 9.2 (C)(3), shall mean up to and including the modulator where the Town signal is converted into a format to be transmitted over a fiber connection to Grantee. The Town or Designated Access Provider shall be responsible for costs associated with SD Access signal transmission on its side of the demarcation point.
- (4) SD Access Channels may require Subscribers to buy or lease special equipment, available to all Subscribers, and subscribe to those tiers of Cable Service, upon which SD channels are made available. Grantee is not required to provide free SD equipment to Subscribers, including complimentary government and educational accounts, nor modify its equipment or pricing policies in any manner.
- (D) High Definition ("HD") Digital Access Channels.
- (1) After the Effective Date and within 120 days of written notice, Grantee shall activate one HD Access Channel, for which the Town may provide Access Channel signals in HD format to the demarcation point at the designated point of origination for the Access Channel. Activation of HD Access Channels shall only occur after the following conditions are satisfied:
  - (a) The Town shall, in its written notice to Grantee as provided for in this Section, confirm that it or its Designated Access Provider has the capabilities to produce, has been producing and will produce programming in an HD format for the newly activated HD Access Channel(s); and,
  - (b) There will be a minimum of five hours per day, five days per week of HD PEG programming available for each HD Access Channel. For the purposes of this subsection, character-generated programming (i.e., community bulletin boards) shall not satisfy, in whole or in part, this programming requirement unless the character-generated programming is included on a channel that also contains HD PEG video programming on the same screen.
- (2) The Town shall be responsible for providing the HD Access Channel signal in an HD digital format to the demarcation point at the designated point of origination for the HD Access Channel. For purposes of this Franchise, an HD signal refers to a television signal delivering picture resolution of either 720 or 1080, or such other resolution in this same range that Grantee utilizes for other similar non-sport, non-movie programming channels on the Cable System, whichever is greater.
- (3) Grantee shall transport and distribute the HD Access Channel signal on its Cable System and shall not unreasonably discriminate against HD Access Channels with

respect to accessibility, functionality and to the application of any applicable Federal Communications Commission Rules & Regulations, including without limitation Subpart K Channel signal standards. With respect to signal quality, Grantee shall not be required to carry a HD Access Channel in a higher quality format than that of the HD Access Channel signal delivered to Grantee, but Grantee shall distribute the HD Access Channel signal without degradation. Grantee shall carry all components of the HD Access Channel signals provided by the Designated Access Provider including, but not limited to, closed captioning, stereo audio and other elements associated with the Programming. Upon reasonable written request by the Town, Grantee shall verify signal delivery to Subscribers with the Town, consistent with the requirements of this Section 9.2(D).

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

# 9.3 Access Channel Assignments

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

# 9.4 Relocation of Access Channels

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

# 9.5 Support for Access Costs

During the term of this Franchise, within one hundred twenty (120) days of a written request from the Town, Grantee shall provide to the Town up to forty five hundredths of a percent (0.45%) of Grantee's Gross Revenues per month (the "Access Contribution") to be used solely for capital costs related to Public, Educational and Governmental Access, or as may be permitted by Applicable Law. Grantee shall make Access Contribution payments quarterly, following the effective date of this Franchise for the preceding quarter ending March 31, June 30, September 30, and December 31. Each payment shall be due and payable no later than forty-five (45) days following the end of the quarter. The Town shall have sole discretion to allocate the expenditure of such payments for any capital costs related to Access.

### 9.6 Access Support Not Franchise Fees

Grantee agrees that capital support for Access Costs arising from or relating to the obligations set forth in this Section shall in no way modify or otherwise affect Grantee's obligations to pay Franchise Fees to the Town. Grantee agrees that although the sum of Franchise Fees plus the payments set forth in this Section may total more than 5% of Grantee's Gross Revenues in any 12-month period, the additional PEG Contribution shall not be offset or otherwise credited in any way against any Franchise Fee payments under this Franchise Agreement so long as such support is used for capital Access purposes consistent with this Franchise and federal law.

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

All SD Access Channels under this Franchise Agreement shall be included by Grantee, without limitation, as part of Basic Service. All HD Access Channels under this Franchise Agreement shall be included by Grantee, without limitation, as part of the lowest-priced tier of

HD Cable Service upon which Grantee provides HD programming content.

## 9.8 Change In Technology

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

## 9.9 Technical Quality

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

### 9.10 Access Cooperation

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

any such arrangements by the Town.

## 9.11 Return Lines/Access Origination

- (A) As of the Effective Date, the return line utilized for the provision of the Town's Access programming by the Town and Douglas County, the Town's Designated Access Provider as of the Effective Date, was constructed into the Douglas County administration building located at 100 Third Street in the Town. Grantee shall continuously maintain that return line previously constructed to 100 Third Street in the Town, throughout the Term of the Franchise, in order to enable the distribution of Access programming to Residential Subscribers on the Access Channels; provided however that Grantee's maintenance obligations with respect to the return line at 100 Third Street shall cease if that location is no longer used in the future by the Town and Douglas County to originate Access programming or to transmit Access programming to Grantee. The Town shall be responsible for costs to install and maintain return lines from 100 Third Street to Town Hall, which is located at 100 N. Wilcox Street in the Town.
- (B) Grantee shall construct and maintain new Fiber Optic return lines to the Headend from production facilities of new or relocated Designated Access Providers, including the Town if it relocates the Access Facilities or return line provided pursuant to Section 9.12(A), delivering Access programming to Residential Subscribers as requested in writing by the Town. All actual construction costs incurred by Grantee from the nearest interconnection point to the Designated Access Provider shall be paid by the Town or the Designated Access Provider. New return lines shall be completed within one year from the request of the Town or its Designated Access Provider, or as otherwise agreed to by the parties. If an emergency situation necessitates movement of production facilities to a new location, the parties shall work together to complete the new return line as soon as reasonably possible.

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

## 10.1 Right to Construct

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

### 10.2 Right-of-Way Meetings

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

## 10.3 Joint Trenching/Boring Meetings

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

#### 10.4 General Standard

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

## 10.5 Permits Required for Construction

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

## 10.6 Emergency Permits

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

### 10.7 Compliance with Applicable Codes

- (A) <u>Town Construction Codes</u>. Grantee shall comply with all applicable Town construction codes, including, without limitation, the International Building Code and other building codes, the International Fire Code, the National Electrical Code, the Electronic Industries Association Standard for Physical Location and Protection of Below-Ground Fiber Optic Cable Plant, and zoning codes and regulations.
- (B) <u>Tower Specifications</u>. Antenna supporting structures (towers) shall be designed for the proper loading as specified by the Electronics Industries Association (EIA), as those specifications may be amended from time to time. Antenna supporting structures (towers) shall be painted, lighted, erected and maintained in accordance with all applicable rules and regulations of the Federal Aviation Administration and all other applicable federal, State, and local codes or regulations.
- (C) <u>Safety Codes</u>. Grantee shall comply with all federal, State and Town safety requirements, rules, regulations, laws and practices, and employ all necessary devices as required by Applicable Law during construction, operation and repair of its Cable System. By way of illustration and not limitation, Grantee shall comply with the National Electric Code, National Electrical Safety Code and Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) Standards.

## 10.8 GIS Mapping

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

#### 10.9 Minimal Interference

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

## 10.10 Prevent Injury/Safety

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

### 10.11 Hazardous Substances

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

#### 10.12 Locates

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

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

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

## 10.13 Notice to Private Property Owners

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

## 10.14 Underground Construction and Use of Poles

- (A) When required by general ordinances, resolutions, regulations or rules of the Town or applicable State or federal law, Grantee's Cable System shall be placed underground at Grantee's expense unless funding is generally available for such relocation to all users of the Rights-of-Way. Placing facilities underground does not preclude the use of ground-mounted appurtenances.
- (B) Where electric, telephone, and other above-ground utilities are installed underground at the time of Cable System construction, or when all such wiring is subsequently placed underground, all Cable System lines shall also be placed underground with other wireline service at no expense to the Town or Subscribers unless funding is generally available for such relocation to all users of the Rights-of-Way. Related Cable System equipment, such as pedestals, must be placed in accordance with the Town's applicable code requirements and rules. In areas where either electric or telephone utility wiring is aerial, the Grantee may install aerial cable, except when a property owner or resident requests underground installation and agrees to bear the additional cost in excess of aerial installation.
  - (C) The Grantee shall utilize existing poles and conduit wherever possible.
- (D) In the event Grantee cannot obtain the necessary poles and related facilities pursuant to a pole attachment agreement, and only in such event, then it shall be lawful for Grantee to make all needed excavations in the Rights-of-Way for the purpose of placing, erecting, laying,

maintaining, repairing, and removing poles, supports for wires and conductors, and any other facility needed for the maintenance or extension of Grantee's Cable System. All poles of Grantee shall be located as designated by the proper Town authorities.

(E) This Franchise does not grant, give or convey to the Grantee the right or privilege to install its facilities in any manner on specific utility poles or equipment of the Town or any other Person. Copies of agreements for the use of poles, conduits or other utility facilities must be provided upon request by the Town.

## 10.15 Undergrounding of Multiple Dwelling Unit Drops

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

#### 10.16 Burial Standards

(A) <u>Depths.</u> Unless otherwise required by law, Grantee must comply with all depth requirements of the Town, including as follows:

Lines shall be buried at a minimum depth of thirty-six (36) inches under any roadway; and

Lines shall be buried at a minimum depth of twenty-four (24) inches under detached sidewalks

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

### 10.17 Cable Drop Bonding

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

### 10.18 Prewiring

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

### 10.19 Repair and Restoration of Property

- (A) The Grantee shall protect public and private property from damage. If damage occurs, the Grantee shall promptly notify the property owner within 24 hours in writing.
- (B) Whenever Grantee disturbs or damages any Right-of-Way, other public property or any private property, Grantee shall promptly restore the Right-of-Way or property to at least its prior condition, normal wear and tear excepted, at its own expense.
- (C) <u>Rights-of-Way and Other Public Property</u>. Grantee shall warrant any restoration work performed by or for Grantee in the Right-of-Way or on other public property in accordance with Applicable Law. If restoration is not satisfactorily performed by the Grantee within a reasonable time, the Town may, after prior notice to the Grantee, or without notice where the disturbance or damage may create a risk to public health or safety, cause the repairs to be made and recover the cost of those repairs from the Grantee. Within 30 days of receipt of an itemized list of those costs, including the costs of labor, materials and equipment, the Grantee shall pay the Town.
- (D) <u>Private Property</u>. Upon completion of the work which caused any disturbance or damage, Grantee shall promptly commence restoration of private property, and will use best efforts to complete the restoration within 72 hours, considering the nature of the work that must be performed. Grantee shall also perform such restoration in accordance with the Town's Customer Service Standards, as the same may be amended from time to time by the Town Council acting by ordinance or resolution.

### 10.20 Use of Conduits by the Town

The Town may install or affix and maintain wires and equipment owned by the Town for Town purposes in or upon any and all of Grantee's ducts, conduits or equipment in the Rights-of-Way and other public places if such placement does not interfere with Grantee's use of its facilities, without charge to the Town, to the extent space therein or thereon is reasonably available, and pursuant to all applicable ordinances and codes. This right shall not extend to affiliates of Grantee who have facilities in the Right-of-Way for the provision of non-Cable services. For the purposes of this subsection, "Town purposes" includes, but is not limited to, the use of structures and installations for Town fire, police, traffic, water, telephone and/or signal systems, but not for Cable Service or transmission to third parties of telecommunications or information services in competition with Grantee. Grantee shall not deduct the value of such use of its facilities from its Franchise Fee payments or from other fees payable to the Town.

### 10.21 Discontinuing Use/Abandonment of Cable System Facilities

Whenever Grantee intends to discontinue using any facility within the Rights-of-Way, Grantee shall submit for the Town's approval a complete description of the facility and the date on which Grantee intends to discontinue using the facility. Grantee may remove the facility or request that the Town permit it to remain in place. Notwithstanding Grantee's request that any such facility remain in place, the Town may require Grantee to remove the facility from the Right-

of-Way or modify the facility to protect the public health, welfare, safety, and convenience, or otherwise serve the public interest. The Town may require Grantee to perform a combination of modification and removal of the facility. Grantee shall complete such removal or modification in accordance with a schedule set by the Town. Until such time as Grantee removes or modifies the facility as directed by the Town, or until the rights to and responsibility for the facility are accepted by another Person having authority to construct and maintain such facility, Grantee shall be responsible for all necessary repairs and relocations of the facility, as well as maintenance of the Right-of-Way, in the same manner and degree as if the facility were in active use, and Grantee shall retain all liability for such facility. If Grantee abandons its facilities, the Town may choose to use such facilities for any purpose whatsoever including, but not limited to, Access purposes.

# 10.22 Movement of Cable System Facilities For Town Purposes

The Town shall have the right to require Grantee to relocate, remove, replace, modify or disconnect Grantee's facilities and equipment located in the Rights-of-Way or on any other property of the Town for public purposes, in the event of an emergency, or when the public health, safety or welfare requires such change (for example, without limitation, by reason of traffic conditions, public safety, Right-of-Way vacation, Right-of-Way construction, change or establishment of Right-of-Way grade, installation of sewers, drains, gas or water pipes, or any other types of structures or improvements by the Town for public purposes). Such work shall be performed at the Grantee's expense. Except during an emergency, the Town shall provide reasonable notice to Grantee, not to be less than five business days, and allow Grantee with the opportunity to perform such action. In the event of any capital improvement project exceeding \$1,000,000 in expenditures by the Town which requires the removal, replacement, modification or disconnection of Grantee's facilities or equipment, the Town shall provide at least 60 days' written notice to Grantee. Following notice by the Town, Grantee shall relocate, remove, replace, modify or disconnect any of its facilities or equipment within any Right-of-Way, or on any other property of the Town. If the Town requires Grantee to relocate its facilities located within the Rights-of-Way, the Town shall make a reasonable effort to provide Grantee with an alternate location within the Rights-of-Way. If funds are generally made available to users of the Rightsof-Way for such relocation, Grantee shall be entitled to its pro rata share of such funds.

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

## 10.23 Movement of Cable System Facilities for Other Franchise Holders

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

## 10.24 Temporary Changes for Other Permittees

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

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

Nothing in this Franchise shall prevent the Town or public utilities owned, maintained or operated by public entities other than the Town from constructing sewers; grading, paving, repairing or altering any Right-of-Way; laying down, repairing or removing water mains; or constructing or establishing any other public work or improvement. All such work shall be done, insofar as practicable, so as not to obstruct, injure or prevent the use and operation of Grantee's Cable System.

## 10.26 Tree Trimming

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

### 10.27 Inspection of Construction and Facilities

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

### 10.28 Stop Work

(A) On notice from the Town that any work is being performed contrary to the provisions of this Franchise, or in an unsafe or dangerous manner as determined by the Town, or in violation of the terms of any applicable permit, laws, regulations, ordinances, or standards, the

work may immediately be stopped by the Town.

- (B) The stop work order shall:
  - (1) Be in writing;
  - (2) Be given to the Person doing the work, or posted on the work site;
  - (3) Be sent to Grantee by overnight delivery at the address given herein;
  - (4) Indicate the nature of the alleged violation or unsafe condition; and
  - (5) Establish conditions under which work may be resumed.

#### 10.29 Work of Contractors and Subcontractors

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

# SECTION 11. CABLE SYSTEM, TECHNICAL STANDARDS AND TESTING

#### 11.1 Subscriber Network

- (A) Grantee's Cable System shall consist of a mix of fiber to the premises and HFC and shall provide Activated Two-Way capability. The Cable System shall be capable of supporting video and audio. The Cable System shall deliver no less than one hundred (150) Channels of digital video programming services to Subscribers, provided that the Grantee reserves the right to use the bandwidth in the future for other uses based on market factors.
- (B) Equipment must be installed so that all closed captioning programming received by the Cable System shall include the closed caption signal so long as the closed caption signal is provided consistent with FCC standards. Equipment must be installed so that all local signals received in stereo or with secondary audio tracks (broadcast and Access) are retransmitted in those same formats.
  - (C) All construction shall be subject to the Town's permitting process.

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

### 11.2 Technology Assessment

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

### 11.3 Standby Power

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

## 11.4 Emergency Alert Capability

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

#### 11.5 Technical Performance

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

### 11.6 Cable System Performance Testing

- (A) Grantee shall provide to the Town a copy of its current written process for resolving complaints about the quality of the video programming services signals delivered to Subscriber and shall provide the Town with any amendments or modifications to the process at such time as they are made.
- (B) Grantee shall, at Grantee's expense, maintain all aggregate data of Subscriber complaints related to the quality of the video programming service signals delivered by Grantee in the Town for a period of at least one year, and individual Subscriber complaints from the Town for a period of at least three years, and make such information available to the Town upon reasonable request.
- (C) Grantee shall maintain written records of all results of its Cable System tests, performed by or for Grantee. Copies of such test results will be provided to the Town upon reasonable request.
  - (D) Grantee shall perform any tests required by the FCC.

#### 11.7 Additional Tests

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

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

### **SECTION 12. SERVICE AVAILABILITY**

- (A) <u>In General</u>. Except as otherwise provided in herein, Grantee shall provide Cable Service within seven days of a request by any Person within the Town. For purposes of this Section, a request shall be deemed made on the date of signing a service agreement, receipt of funds by Grantee, receipt of a written request by Grantee or receipt by Grantee of a verified verbal request. Except as otherwise provided herein, Grantee shall provide such service:
  - (1) With no line extension charge except as specifically authorized elsewhere in this Franchise Agreement.
  - (2) At a non-discriminatory installation charge for a standard installation, consisting of a 125 foot drop connecting to an inside wall for Residential Subscribers, with additional charges for non standard installations computed according to a non discriminatory methodology for such installations, adopted by Grantee and provided in writing to the Town;
  - (3) At non discriminatory monthly rates for Residential Subscribers.
- (B) <u>Service to Multiple Dwelling Units</u>. Consistent with this Section 12.1, the Grantee shall offer the individual units of a Multiple Dwelling Unit all Cable Services offered to other Dwelling Units in the Town and shall individually wire units upon request of the property owner or renter who has been given written authorization by the owner; provided, however, that any such offering is conditioned upon the Grantee having legal access to said unit. The Town acknowledges that the Grantee cannot control the dissemination of particular Cable Services beyond the point of demarcation at a Multiple Dwelling Unit.
- (C) <u>Customer Charges for Extensions of Service</u>. Grantee agrees to extend its Cable System to all persons living in areas with a residential density of 35 residences per mile of Cable System plant. If the residential density is less than 35 residences per 5,280 cable-bearing strand feet of trunk or distribution cable, service may be made available on the basis of a capital contribution in aid of construction, including cost of material, labor and easements. For the purpose of determining the amount of capital contribution in aid of construction to be borne by the Grantee and customers in the area in which service may be expanded, the Grantee will contribute an amount equal to the construction and other costs per mile, multiplied by a fraction whose numerator equals the actual number of residences per 5,280 cable-bearing strand feet of its trunk or distribution cable and whose denominator equals 35. Customers who request service hereunder will bear the remainder of the construction and other costs on a pro-rata basis. The Grantee may require that the payment of the capital contribution in aid of construction borne by such potential customers be paid in advance.

#### **SECTION 13. FRANCHISE VIOLATIONS**

### 13.1 Procedure for Remedying Franchise Violations

(A) If the Town reasonably believes that Grantee has failed to perform any obligation under this Franchise or has failed to perform in a timely manner, the Town shall notify Grantee in

writing, stating with reasonable specificity the nature of the alleged default. Grantee shall have thirty (30) days from the receipt of such notice to:

- (1) respond to the Town, contesting the Town's assertion that a default has occurred, and requesting a meeting in accordance with subsection (B), below;
  - (2) cure the default; or,
- (3) notify the Town that Grantee cannot cure the default within the thirty (30) days, because of the nature of the default. In the event the default cannot be cured within thirty (30) days, Grantee shall promptly take all reasonable steps to cure the default and notify the Town in writing and in detail as to the exact steps that will be taken and the projected completion date. In such case, the Town may set a meeting in accordance with subsection (B) below to determine whether additional time beyond the thirty (30) days specified above is indeed needed, and whether Grantee's proposed completion schedule and steps are reasonable.
- (B) If Grantee does not cure the alleged default within the cure period stated above, or by the projected completion date under subsection (A)(3), or denies the default and requests a meeting in accordance with (A)(1), or the Town orders a meeting in accordance with subsection (A)(3), the Town shall set a meeting to investigate said issues or the existence of the alleged default. The Town shall notify Grantee of the meeting in writing and such meeting shall take place no less than thirty (30) days after Grantee's receipt of notice of the meeting. At the meeting, Grantee shall be provided an opportunity to be heard and to present evidence in its defense.
- (C) If, after the meeting, the Town determines that a default exists, the Town reserves the right to seek any remedy that may be available at law or in equity, including without limitation, revocation, and Grantee reserves the right to assert any defenses it may have to the Town's position.
- (D) No provision of this Franchise shall be deemed to bar the right of the Town to seek or obtain judicial relief from a violation of any provision of the Franchise or any rule, regulation, requirement or directive promulgated thereunder. Neither the existence of other remedies identified in this Franchise nor the exercise thereof shall be deemed to bar or otherwise limit the right of the Town to recover monetary damages for such violations by Grantee, or to seek and obtain judicial enforcement of Grantee's obligations by means of specific performance, injunctive relief or mandate, or any other remedy at law or in equity.

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

- (A) If this Franchise expires without renewal after completion of all processes available under this Franchise and federal law or is otherwise lawfully terminated or revoked, the Town may, subject to Applicable Law:
  - (1) Allow Grantee to maintain and operate its Cable System on a month-tomonth basis or short-term extension of this Franchise for not less than six (6) months, unless a sale of the Cable System can be closed sooner or Grantee demonstrates to the

Town's satisfaction that it needs additional time to complete the sale; or

- (2) Purchase Grantee's Cable System in accordance with the procedures set forth in subsection 13.3, below.
- (B) In the event that a sale has not been completed in accordance with subsections (A)(1) and/or (A)(2) above, the Town may order the removal of the above-ground Cable System facilities and such underground facilities from the Town at Grantee's sole expense within a reasonable period of time as determined by the Town. In removing its plant, structures and equipment, Grantee shall refill, at is own expense, any excavation that is made by it and shall leave all Rights-of-Way, public places and private property in as good condition as that prevailing prior to Grantee's removal of its equipment without affecting the electrical or telephone cable wires or attachments. The indemnification and insurance provisions and the letter of credit shall remain in full force and effect during the period of removal, and Grantee shall not be entitled to, and agrees not to request, compensation of any sort therefore.
- (C) If Grantee fails to complete any removal required by subsection 13.2 (B) to the Town's satisfaction, after written notice to Grantee, the Town may cause the work to be done and Grantee shall reimburse the Town for the costs incurred within 30 days after receipt of an itemized list of the costs, or the Town may recover the costs through the letter of credit provided by Grantee.
- (D) The Town may seek legal and equitable relief to enforce the provisions of this Franchise.

# 13.3 Purchase of Cable System

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

(2) In the case of revocation for cause, the equitable price of Grantee's Cable System.

## 13.4 Receivership and Foreclosure

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

## 13.5 No Monetary Recourse Against the Town

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

#### 13.6 Effect of Abandonment

If the Grantee abandons its Cable System during the Franchise term, or fails to operate its Cable System in accordance with its duty to provide continuous service, the Town, at its option, may operate the Cable System; designate another entity to operate the Cable System temporarily until the Grantee restores service under conditions acceptable to the Town, or until the Franchise is revoked and a new franchisee is selected by the Town; or obtain an injunction requiring the

Grantee to continue operations. If the Town is required to operate or designate another entity to operate the Cable System, the Grantee shall reimburse the Town or its designee for all reasonable costs, expenses and damages incurred.

#### 13.7 What Constitutes Abandonment

The Town shall be entitled to exercise its options in subsection 13.6 if:

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

## SECTION 14. FRANCHISE RENEWAL AND TRANSFER

### 14.1 Renewal

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

## 14.2 Transfer of Ownership or Control

(A) The Cable System and this Franchise shall not be sold, assigned, transferred, leased or disposed of, either in whole or in part, either by involuntary sale or by voluntary sale, merger or consolidation; nor shall title thereto, either legal or equitable, or any right, interest or property

therein pass to or vest in any Person or entity without the prior written consent of the Town, which consent shall be by the Town Council, acting by ordinance/resolution.

- (B) The Grantee shall promptly notify the Town of any actual or proposed change in, or transfer of, or acquisition by any other party of control of the Grantee. The word "control" as used herein is not limited to majority stockholders but includes actual working control in whatever manner exercised. Every change, transfer or acquisition of control of the Grantee shall make this Franchise subject to cancellation unless and until the Town shall have consented in writing thereto.
- (C) The parties to the sale or transfer shall make a written request to the Town for its approval of a sale or transfer and furnish all information required by law and the Town.
- (D) In seeking the Town's consent to any change in ownership or control, the proposed transferee shall indicate whether it:
  - (1) Has ever been convicted or held liable for acts involving deceit including any violation of federal, State, or local law or regulations, or is currently under an indictment, investigation or complaint charging such acts;
  - (2) Has ever had a judgment in an action for fraud, deceit, or misrepresentation entered against the proposed transferee by any court of competent jurisdiction;
  - (3) Has pending any material legal claim, lawsuit, or administrative proceeding arising out of or involving a cable system or a broadband system;
  - (4) Is financially solvent, by submitting financial data including financial statements that are audited by a certified public accountant who may also be an officer of the transferee, along with any other data that the Town may reasonably require; and
  - (5) Has the financial, legal and technical capability to enable it to maintain and operate the Cable System for the remaining term of the Franchise.
- (E) The Town shall act by ordinance on the request within 120 days of the request, provided it has received all information required by this Franchise and/or by Applicable Law. The Town and the Grantee may by mutual agreement, at any time, extend the 120-day period. Subject to the foregoing, if the Town fails to render a final decision on the request within 120 days, such request shall be deemed granted unless the requesting party and the Town agree to an extension of time.
- (F) Within 30 days of any transfer or sale, if approved or deemed granted by the Town, Grantee shall file with the Town a copy of the deed, agreement, lease or other written instrument evidencing such sale or transfer of ownership or control, certified and sworn to as correct by Grantee and the transferee, and the transferee shall file its written acceptance agreeing to be bound by all of the provisions of this Franchise, subject to Applicable Law. In the event of a change in control in which the Grantee is not replaced by another entity, the Grantee will continue to be bound by all of the provisions of the Franchise, subject to Applicable Law, and will not be required

to file an additional written acceptance.

- (G) In reviewing a request for sale or transfer, the Town may inquire into the legal, technical and financial qualifications of the prospective controlling party or transferee, and Grantee shall assist the Town in so inquiring. The Town may condition said sale or transfer upon such terms and conditions as it deems reasonably appropriate, in accordance with Applicable Law.
- (H) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this subsection, the prior approval of the Town shall not be required for any sale, assignment or transfer of the Franchise or Cable System to an entity controlling, controlled by or under the same common control as Grantee, provided that the proposed assignee or transferee must show financial responsibility as may be determined necessary by the Town and must agree in writing to comply with all of the provisions of the Franchise. Further, Grantee may pledge the assets of the Cable System for the purpose of financing without the consent of the Town; provided that such pledge of assets shall not impair or mitigate Grantee's responsibilities and capabilities to meet all of its obligations under the provisions of this Franchise.

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

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

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

### 16.1 Preferential or Discriminatory Practices Prohibited

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

#### 16.2 Notices

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

### Grantee's address shall be:

COMCAST OF COLORADO IX, LLC 8000 E. Iliff Ave.
Denver, CO 80231
Attn: Government Affairs

### The Town's address shall be:

Town of Castle Rock 100 N. Wilcox St. Castle Rock, CO 80104 Attn: Assistant Town Manager

### With a copy to:

Town of Castle Rock 100 N. Wilcox St. Castle Rock, CO 80104 Attn: Town Attorney

### 16.3 Descriptive Headings

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

## 16.4 Publication Costs to be Borne by Grantee

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

### 16.5 Binding Effect

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

#### 16.6 No Joint Venture

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

#### 16.7 Waiver

The failure of the Town at any time to require performance by the Grantee of any provision

hereof shall in no way affect the right of the Town hereafter to enforce the same. Nor shall the waiver by the Town of any breach of any provision hereof be taken or held to be a waiver of any succeeding breach of such provision, or as a waiver of the provision itself or any other provision.

# 16.8 Reasonableness of Consent or Approval

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

## 16.9 Entire Agreement

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

### 16.10 Jurisdiction

Venue for any judicial dispute between the Town and Grantee arising under or out of this Franchise shall be in Douglas County District Court, Colorado, or in the United States District Court in Denver.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this Franchise is signed in the name of the Town of Castle Rock, Colorado this <u>15</u> day of <u>October</u>, 2024.

ATTEST:	TOWN OF CASTLE ROCCOLORADO:	CK,
Town Clerk	Mayor	
APPROVED AS TO FORM:	RECOMMENDED AND APPROVED:	
Town Attorney	Town Manager	

Accepted and approved this _	day of, 2024	h.
ATTEST:	COMCAST O	F COLORADO IX, LLC
		Sela
Public Notary	Name/Title:	John Keller 5r Vp

# **EXHIBIT A: REPORT FORM**

Comcast

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

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