



MEMORANDUM

TO: Government & Finance Committee members

FROM: Darryn Zuehlke, General Manager

DATE: June 17, 2013

RE: Inter-Governmental Agreement with DPS for Ch. 22

Councilmembers, on the agenda for June 26th is an IGA with Denver Public Schools for “Operation of the Education Access Channel,” otherwise known as Ch. 22 on the Comcast line-up. This is a necessary contract, so that the City may utilize the Comcast capital equipment fund (the PEG Fund) to assist in purchasing video/audio equipment.

DPS has operated Ch. 22 for several decades and has always had an informal agreement with the City for the operation of the channel. They produce a variety of programs by and for students and young people. My agency has provided PEG Fund dollars to DPS to purchase cameras, microphones, editing systems, and playback distribution equipment.

Several things have changed that require this IGA: the need to have an actual contract in place which formalizes the relationship, and a legal document listing approved dollar amounts so that the City can distribute PEG Fund monies to DPS. That is the extent of the reasoning for this IGA.

Nowhere in this agreement does the City list any content authority or control. By design, the City wants DPS to be solely responsible for the programming which airs on the channel. It is not the purpose for the City to give content direction to DPS, even though this channel is assigned to Education Access by the City.

In the coming months, you will see a similar IGA for the Auraria Higher Education Campus that accomplishes the same purpose. This IGA with DPS has a higher priority because of the need to provide identified funds to the school district to assist with the relocation of the channel studios to the new facility on 18th and Lincoln.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns. Thanks!