

**QWEST BROADBAND SERVICES, INC., d/b/a CENTURYLINK AND  
THE CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER, COLORADO**

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***CABLE FRANCHISE AGREEMENT***

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**QWEST BROADBAND SERVICES, INC. d/b/a CENTURYLINK AND  
THE CITY OF DENVER, COLORADO**

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**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 City 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.

d. “Governmental Access Video-on-Demand Service” or “GAVOD Service” means the transmission of Public, Educational, and Government Programming to an individual and unique Subscriber upon the demand of that unique and individual Subscriber.

e. “Governmental Access Video-on-Demand System” or “GAVOD System” means the hardware, software, and all related connections and support systems necessary to offer GAVOD Service to Subscribers and to receive, store, catalog, search, and transmit PEG programming via GAVOD Service.

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” means any Cable Service Tier which includes, at a minimum, the retransmission of local television Broadcast Signals and local Access programming.

1.8 “Broadcast Signal” 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.

1.9 “Cable Act” means the Title VI of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended.

1.10 “Cable Operator” 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.

1.11 “Cable Service” 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. To the extent consistent with Applicable Law, Cable Service shall include interactive services such as, but not limited to, game Channels, information services and enhanced services made available to Subscribers by the Grantee.

1.12 “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.

1.13 “Channel” 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).

1.14 “City” is the City of Denver, Colorado, a body politic and corporate under the laws of the State of Colorado.

City

1.15 “City Council” means the Denver City Council, or its successor, the governing body of the City of Denver, Colorado.

1.16 “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.

1.17 “Commercial Subscribers” means any Subscribers other than Residential Subscribers.

1.18 “Designated Access Provider” means the entity or entities designated now or in the future by the City to manage or co-manage Access Channels and facilities. The City may be a Designated Access Provider.

1.19 “Downstream” means carrying a transmission from the Headend to remote points on the Cable System or to Interconnection points on the Cable System.

1.20 “Dwelling Unit” 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 “Expanded Basic Service” 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.

1.22 “FCC” means the Federal Communications Commission.

1.23 “Fiber Optic” means a transmission medium of optical fiber cable, along with all associated electronics and equipment, capable of carrying Cable Service or Institutional Network service by means of electric lightwave impulses.

1.24 “Franchise” means the document in which this definition appears, *i.e.*, the contractual

agreement, executed between the City and Grantee, containing the specific provisions of the authorization granted, including references, specifications, requirements and other related matters.

1.25 “Franchise Area” means the area within the jurisdictional boundaries of the City, including any areas annexed by the City during the term of this Franchise.

1.26 “Franchise Fee” means that fee payable to the City described in subsection 3.1 (A).

1.27 “Grantee” means Qwest Broadband Services, Inc., d/b/a CenturyLink or its lawful successor, transferee or assignee.

1.28 “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 City. 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 City;
- 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 City;
- 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 City.

(A) “Advertising Revenues” shall mean revenues derived from sales of advertising

that are made available to Grantee's Cable System subscribers within the City 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 City 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 City;
- 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 City. The City 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 City within three (3) 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 City 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.

1.29 “Headend” 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.

1.30 “Interconnect” or “Interconnection” means the linking of the Cable System with another cable system, or communications system or network, including technical, engineering, physical, financial and other necessary components to accomplish, complete and adequately maintain such linking, in a manner that permits the transmission and receiving of electronic or optical signals between the Cable System and other cable system, communications system or network; or the necessary components to accomplish, complete and adequately maintain pathways that permit the transmission and receiving of electronic or optical signals between locations connected to portions of the Cable System outside the Franchise Area and those portions of the Cable System inside the Franchise Area.

1.31 “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.

1.32 “Living Unit” means a distinct address in the Qwest Corporation, d/b/a/ CenturyLink, (QC) network inventory where QC currently has, had in the past, or had planned to provide service to a customer. This includes but is not limited to, single family homes, multi-dwelling units and business locations.

1.34 “Person” means any individual, sole proprietorship, partnership, association, or corporation, or any other form of entity or organization.

1.35 “Premium Service” 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.

1.36 “Remote DSLAM or RT” means a Digital Subscriber Line Access Multiplexer installed by Grantee and capable of providing Cable Service to Subscribers.

1.37 “Residential Subscriber” means any Person who receives Cable Service delivered to Dwelling Units or Multiple Dwelling Units. Regardless of whether Multiple Dwelling Units are billed on a bulk-billing basis, each residential unit receiving Cable Service shall be considered a separate Residential Subscriber.

1.38 “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 City: streets, roadways, highways, avenues, lanes, alleys, bridges, sidewalks, easements, rights-of-way and similar public property and areas.

1.39 “State” means the State of Colorado.

1.40 “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.

1.41 “Subscriber Network” means that portion of the Cable System used primarily by Grantee in the transmission of Cable Services to Residential Subscribers.

1.42 “Telecommunications” 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)).

1.43 “Telecommunications Service” 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)).

1.44 “Tier” means a group of Channels for which a single periodic subscription fee is charged.

1.45 “Two-Way” means that the Cable System is capable of providing both Upstream and Downstream transmissions.

1.46 “Upstream” 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***, entitled Customer Service Standards
- 2) ***Exhibit B***, entitled Report Form

## **SECTION 2. GRANT OF FRANCHISE**

### **2.1 Grant**

(A) The City hereby grants to Grantee a nonexclusive authorization to make

reasonable and lawful use of the Rights-of-Way within the City 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 City 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 City, and the ordinances and regulations enacted pursuant thereto. The Charter and Municipal Code of the City, 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 City may not unilaterally alter the material rights and obligations of Grantee under this Franchise.

(D) This Franchise shall not be interpreted to prevent the City from imposing additional lawful conditions, including additional compensation conditions for use of the Rights-of-Way, should Grantee provide service other than Cable Service.

(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. However, the parties acknowledge that Qwest Communications (“QC”), an affiliate of Grantee, will be primarily responsible for the construction and installation of the facilities in the Rights-of-Way which will be utilized by Grantee to provide Cable Services. So long as QC does not provide Cable Service to Subscribers in the City, QC will not be subject to the terms and conditions contained in this Franchise. QC’s installation and maintenance of facilities in the Rights-of-Way is governed by Applicable Law. To the extent Grantee constructs and installs facilities in the Rights-of-Way, such installation will be subject to the terms and conditions contained herein.

(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 City that may be required by the ordinances and laws of the City;

(2) Any permit, agreement, or authorization required by the City 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 City 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 City 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.

(H) This Franchise does not authorize Grantee to provide Telecommunications Service, or to construct, operate or maintain Telecommunications facilities. This Franchise is not a bar to imposition of any lawful conditions on Grantee with respect to Telecommunications, whether similar, different or the same as the conditions specified herein. This Franchise does not relieve Grantee of any obligation it may have to obtain from the City an authorization to provide Telecommunications Services, or to construct, operate or maintain Telecommunications facilities, or relieve Grantee of its obligation to comply with any such authorizations that may be lawfully required.

## **2.2 Use of Rights-of-Way**

(A) Subject to the City'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 City 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 City. Grantee, through this Franchise, is granted extensive and valuable rights to operate its Cable System for profit using the City's Rights-of-Way in compliance with all applicable City construction codes and procedures. As trustee for the public, the City is entitled to fair compensation to be paid for these valuable rights throughout the term of the Franchise.

(B) Grantee must follow City established 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 City's role in protecting public health, safety and welfare, the City 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 City'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 City, or which is installed without prior City 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 [\_\_\_\_\_], 2015 “Effective Date”), and shall terminate on [\_\_\_\_\_], 2025 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 City to any Person to use any property, Right-of-Way, right, interest or license for any purpose whatsoever, including the right of the City to use same for any purpose it deems fit, including the same or similar purposes allowed Grantee hereunder. The City 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 City deems appropriate.

### **2.5 Police Powers**

Grantee's rights hereunder are subject to the police powers of the City 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 City or any other legally constituted governmental unit having lawful jurisdiction over the subject matter hereof. The City shall have the right to adopt, from time to time, such ordinances as may be deemed necessary in the exercise of its police power; provided that such hereinafter enacted ordinances shall be reasonable and not materially modify the terms of this Franchise. Any conflict between the provisions of this Franchise and any other present or future lawful exercise of the City's police powers shall be resolved in favor of the latter.

### **2.6 Grant of Other Franchises**

In the event the City enters into a franchise, permit, license, authorization or other agreement of any kind with any other Person or entity other than the Grantee to enter into the City's Rights-of-Way for the purpose of constructing or operating a Cable System or providing Cable Service to any part of the Franchise Area, in which the Grantee is actually providing Cable Service under the terms and conditions of this Franchise or is required to extend Cable Service to under the provisions of this Franchise, the material provisions thereof shall be reasonably comparable to those contained herein, in order that one operator not be granted an unfair competitive advantage over another.

### **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 City'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**

(A) As compensation for the benefits and privileges granted under this Franchise and in consideration of permission to use the City's Rights-of-Way, Grantee shall pay as a Franchise Fee to the City, throughout the duration of this Franchise, an amount equal to five percent (5%) of Grantee's Gross Revenues. Accrual of such Franchise Fee shall commence as of the Effective Date of this Franchise.

### **3.2 Payments**

Grantee's Franchise Fee payments to the City 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 thirty (30) days after said dates.

### **3.3 Acceptance of Payment and Recomputation**

No acceptance of any payment shall be construed as an accord by the City 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 City 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 City, 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 sixty (60) days after the end of each year, furnish to the City a

statement stating the total amount of Gross Revenues for the year and all payments, deductions and computations for the period. Such statement shall be audited by a certified public accountant, who may also be the chief financial officer or controller of Grantee, prior to submission to the City.

### **3.6 Audits**

On an annual basis, upon thirty (30) days prior written notice, the City, including the City's Auditor or his/her authorized representative, shall have the right to conduct an independent audit of Grantee's records reasonably related to the administration or enforcement of this Franchise. Pursuant to subsection 3.1 (B), as part of the Franchise Fee audit the City shall specifically have the right to review records 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 City subscribers during the audit period. To the extent that the City does not believe that the relevant data supplied is sufficient for the City to complete its audit/review, the City 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 City to recompute the Gross Revenue determination. If the audit shows that Franchise Fee payments have been underpaid by two and one half percent (2 ½%) or more (or such other contract underpayment threshold as set forth in a generally applicable and enforceable regulation or policy of the City related to audits), Grantee shall pay the total cost of the audit, such cost not to exceed ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) for each year of the audit period. The City's right to audit and the Grantee's obligation to retain records related to this subsection shall expire three (3) years after each Franchise Fee payment has been made to the City.

### **3.7 Late Payments**

In the event any payment due quarterly is not received within thirty (30) 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 City 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 eight percent (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 City.

### **3.9 Alternative Compensation**

In the event the obligation of Grantee to compensate the City through Franchise Fee

payments is lawfully suspended or eliminated, in whole or part, then Grantee shall pay to the City compensation equivalent to the compensation paid to the City by other similarly situated users of the City's Rights-of-Way for Grantee's use of the City's Rights-of-Way, provided that in no event shall such payments exceed the equivalent of five percent (5%) of Grantee's Gross Revenues (subject to the other provisions contained in this Franchise).

### **3.10 Maximum Legal Compensation**

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

### **3.11 Additional Commitments Not Franchise Fee Payments**

No term or condition in this Franchise, including the funding required by Section 9, shall in any way modify or affect Grantee's obligation to pay Franchise Fees. Although the total sum of Franchise Fee payments and additional commitments set forth elsewhere in this Franchise may total more than five percent (5%) of Grantee's Gross Revenues in any twelve (12) month period, Grantee agrees that the additional commitments herein are not Franchise Fees as defined under any federal law, nor are they to be offset or credited against any Franchise Fee payments due to the City, nor do they represent an increase in Franchise Fees to be passed through to Subscribers pursuant to any federal law, nor do they represent an increase in Franchise Fees.

### **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 City, 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 City. 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 City 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 City 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 City within ninety (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 City reserves the right to satisfy any remaining financial obligations of the Grantee to the City 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 City 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 City'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 City 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 City. Grantee shall offer the same Cable Services to all Residential Subscribers at identical rates 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 City 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. As used in this subsection, no rate or charge shall be considered temporary if Subscribers have the ability over a period greater than twelve (12) consecutive months (or such other period as may be approved by the City) to purchase Cable Services at such rate or charge.

(B) Upon request of the City, 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 City reserve all rights they may have under the Cable Act and any other relevant provisions of federal, State, or local law.

#### **4.7 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 City to invoke any relevant remedy.

#### **4.8 Franchise Amendment Procedure**

Either party may at any time seek an amendment of this Franchise by so notifying the other party in writing. Within thirty (30) days of receipt of notice, the City 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 City Council for its approval. If so approved by the City 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.

#### **4.9 Performance Evaluations**

(A) The City may hold performance evaluation sessions within thirty (30) days of the biennial anniversary dates of the Effective Date of this Franchise. All such evaluation sessions shall be conducted by the City.

(B) Special evaluation sessions may be held at any time by the City during the term of this Franchise.

(C) All regular evaluation sessions shall be open to the public and announced at least two (2) weeks in advance in a newspaper of general circulation in the City. 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 City, 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 City 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 City and shall provide such information and documents as the City may reasonably require to perform the evaluation.

#### **4.10 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 City's Customer Service Standards, as the same may be amended from time to time by the City Council acting by ordinance or resolution, or as the same may be superseded by legislation or final court order.

(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 nondiscriminatory and such policies and practices, and any fees imposed pursuant to this subsection, shall apply equally in all parts of the City without regard to the neighborhood or income level of the Subscriber.

#### **4.11 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 City. 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 City 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 City to substantiate the Grantee's claim. If Grantee has not yet cured the deficiency, Grantee shall also provide the City with its proposed plan for remediation, including the timing for such cure.

### **SECTION 5. FINANCIAL AND INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS**

#### **5.1 Indemnification**

(A) General Indemnification. Grantee shall indemnify, defend and hold the City, 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 City while conducting its defense of the City.

(B) Indemnification for Relocation. Grantee shall indemnify the City for any damages, claims, additional costs or reasonable expenses assessed against, or payable by, the City 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 City.

(C) Additional Circumstances. Grantee shall also indemnify, defend and hold the City 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 City in granting this Franchise to the extent such actions are consistent with this Franchise and Applicable Law. These obligations include any claims by another franchised cable operator against the City that the terms and conditions of this Franchise are less burdensome than another franchise granted by the City, regardless of the outcome of such proceeding;

(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) Procedures and Defense. If a claim or action arises, the City or any other indemnified party shall promptly tender the defense of the claim to Grantee, which defense shall be at Grantee's expense. The City 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 City 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 City's attorney's fees, expenses or other costs. In any event, Grantee may not agree to any settlement of claims affecting the City without the City's approval.

(E) Non-waiver. 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 City and the counsel selected by Grantee to represent the City, Grantee shall pay, from the date such separate representation is required forward, all reasonable expenses incurred by the City 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 City/City/Grantee desires to hire counsel or any other outside experts or consultants and desires Grantee to pay those expenses, then City/City/Grantee 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 City'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 City Attorney or his/her assistants or any employees of the City or its agents but shall not include outside attorneys' fees for services that are unnecessarily duplicative of services provided the City by Grantee. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the parties agree that the City may utilize at any time, at its own cost and expense, its own City Attorney or outside counsel with respect to any claim brought by another franchised cable operator as described in subsection (C)(1) above.

## 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:

(1) Commercial General Liability insurance with limits of no less than one million dollars (\$1,000,000.00) per occurrence and one million dollars (\$1,000,000.00) 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 City, 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 City, 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 one million dollars (\$1,000,000.00) each occurrence and one million dollars (\$1,000,000.00) aggregate 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 City. The policy shall contain a severability of interests provision.

(B) Each policy shall provide that the insurance shall not be canceled or materially changed so as to be out of compliance with these requirements without thirty (30) days' written notice first provided to the City, via certified mail, and ten (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 (1) 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 City.

(A) Endorsements.

(1) All policies shall contain, or shall be endorsed so that:

(a) The City, 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 City, its officers, officials, boards, commissions, employees and agents. Any insurance or self-insurance maintained by the City, 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) Acceptability of Insurers. The insurance obtained by Grantee shall be placed with insurers with a Best's rating of no less than "A VIII."

(C) Verification of Coverage. The Grantee shall furnish the City 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) Self-Insurance In the alternative to providing a certificate of insurance to the City certifying insurance coverage as required above, Grantee may provide self-insurance in the same amount and level of protection for Grantee and City, 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 City.

#### 5.4 Letter of Credit

(A) No later than the Effective Date of this Franchise, Grantee shall establish and provide to the City, on behalf of the City and all other members of the CCUA , 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 City in the amount of one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000).

(B) The letter of credit shall be maintained at one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) throughout the term of this Franchise, provided that once every three (3) years, the City shall have the right to increase this amount to reflect increases in the Denver Metropolitan Area Consumer Price Index during the prior three (3) year period.

(C) The letter of credit may be drawn upon by the City for purposes including, but not limited to, the following:

- (1) Failure of Grantee to pay the City sums due under the terms of this Franchise;
- (2) Reimbursement of costs borne by the City 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 City, as the

same may be amended from time to time by the City Council acting by ordinance or resolution.

(D) The City shall give Grantee written notice of any withdrawal under this subsection upon such withdrawal. Within seven (7) days following receipt of such notice, Grantee shall restore the letter of credit to the amount required under this Franchise.

(E) Grantee shall have the right to appeal to the City 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 City 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.

(F) If the City withdraws from the CCUA, Grantee shall obtain a letter of credit solely on behalf of the City, in the amount of twenty five thousand dollars (\$25,000.00), within sixty (60) days of receiving written notice from the City. In this event, the City will also be removed from the CCUA letter of credit.

## **SECTION 6. CUSTOMER SERVICE**

### **6.1 Customer Service Standards**

Grantee shall comply with Customer Service Standards of the City (attached hereto as Exhibit A), as the same may be amended from time to time by the City Council acting by ordinance or resolution. Any requirement in Customer Service Standards for a “local” telephone number may be met by the provision of a toll-free number. Grantee reserves the right to challenge any customer service ordinance 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 City a sample of the Subscriber contract or service agreement then in use.

### **6.4 Advance Notice to City**

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

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

Within sixty (60) days after written request from the City, Grantee shall place the City'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 City. The City, including the City'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 City 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 City may, in writing, request copies of any such records or books and Grantee shall provide such copies within thirty (30) days of the transmittal of such request. One (1) copy of all reports and records required under this or any other subsection shall be furnished to the City, 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 ten (10) days, that the City 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 City upon written request as set forth above, and if the City determines that an examination of such records is necessary or appropriate for the performance of any of the City'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 City 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 City 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 City 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 City receives a demand from any Person for disclosure of any information designated by Grantee as confidential, the City 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 City 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 City 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 City upon 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 City's authorized representative(s) or agent(s) and made available to such during the course of technical inspections as reasonably conducted by the City. 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 City;

(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 twelve (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 City is public information, and shall be treated as such, except for information involving the privacy rights of individual Subscribers.

### 7.4 Annual Reports

Within sixty (60) days after the end of the calendar year, Grantee shall submit to the City a written report, in a form acceptable to the City, which shall include, but not necessarily be limited to, the following information for the City:

(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, Expanded Basic Service, and Premium); and

(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;

(E) A copy of the most recent annual report Grantee filed with the SEC or other governing body.

The parties agree that the City'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 City to the contrary.

### **7.5 Copies of Federal and State Reports**

Grantee shall submit to the City 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 City. Grantee shall submit such documents to the City no later than thirty (30) days after filing, mailing, publication, or completion. 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. With respect to all documents provided to any federal, State, or local regulatory agency as a routine matter in the due course of operating Grantee's Cable System within the City, Grantee shall make such documents available to the City upon request.

### **7.6 Complaint File and Reports**

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 open to the City during normal business hours. Grantee shall provide the City a quarterly executive summary in the form attached hereto as Exhibit B, which shall include the following information:

- (A) A summary of service calls, identifying the number and nature of the requests and their disposition;
- (B) A log of all service interruptions;
- (C) A summary of customer complaints referred by the City to Grantee; and
- (D) Such other information as reasonably requested by the City, provided that Grantee is given thirty (30) days prior written notice of such request before the beginning of the applicable quarter.

### **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 City may reasonably request (not including clerical errors or errors made in good faith), may, at the City'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 City 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) Sports;
- (D) General entertainment (including movies);
- (E) Children/family-oriented;
- (F) Arts, culture and performing arts;
- (G) Foreign language;
- (H) Science/documentary;
- (I) National news, weather and information; and
- (J) 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 City.

(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 Ascertainment of Programming and Customer Satisfaction**

Upon request of the City, the Grantee shall, at the sole expense of Grantee, undertake a biennial survey of community views of cable operations in the City, including but not limited to programming, response to community needs, satisfaction and dissatisfaction with Cable Services offered by Grantee, and customer service. Grantee shall consult and cooperate with the City in developing and implementing an ascertainment methodology. The final form and content of the survey shall be as mutually agreed upon by the Grantee and the City. Grantee shall provide the results of such survey to the City within two (2) months after completing the survey. Upon request, Grantee shall also provide a copy of results from any other survey of Subscribers in the City conducted independently by the Grantee within the previous year. Any survey results conducted within the City which are intended for external publication shall also be provided to the City. Nothing herein shall be construed to limit the right of the City to conduct its own surveys at its own expense.

### **8.4 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.

### **8.5 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.

### **8.6 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 City, 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 (4) consecutive days without prior approval of the Manager, or without just cause, the City 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 City or a permanent Cable Operator is selected. If the City is required to fulfill this obligation for Grantee, Grantee shall reimburse the City for all reasonable costs or damages that are the result of Grantee's failure to perform.

### **8.7 Services for the Disabled**

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

## **SECTION 9. ACCESS**

### **9.1 Designated Access Providers**

(A) The City shall have the sole and exclusive responsibility for identifying the Designated Access Providers, and allowing Access resources under this Section. City may designate Access providers to control and manage the use of any Access Facilities provided by Grantee under this Franchise Agreement, including, without limitation, the operation of Interconnected Access Channels to the extent of such designation by City, as between the designated Access provider and Grantee, the designated Access provider shall have sole and exclusive responsibility for operating and managing such Access Facilities.

(B) Grantee shall cooperate with City in City'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) At the time the first cable subscriber is connected, Grantee shall make available to City seven (7) Downstream Channels for Public, Educational, or Governmental ("PEG") use. Upon at least 120 day written notice to Grantee, a Designated Access Provider may provide Access Channel Signals in HD format to the demarcation point at the designated point of origination for the Access Channel. Grantee shall simultaneously carry the Access Channels in high definition (HD) format Channels on the Downstream Residential Network for PEG Access use, in addition to simultaneously carrying the standard definition (SD) digital Access Channels. Grantee shall carry all components of the HD and SD format 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. The Designated Access Provider shall be

responsible for providing the Access Channel Signal in an HD format to the demarcation point at the designated point of origination for the Access Channel. Grantee shall transport and distribute the Access Programming without degradation. Consistent with this requirement, Grantee shall provide all necessary equipment outside and including the demarcation point at the Designated Access Provider Channel origination point, at its Headend and throughout its distribution system to deliver the Access Channel(s) in the HD and SD format to Subscribers. Grantee shall not discriminate against PEG Access Channels with respect to the functionality, signal quality, and features from those of the local Broadcast HD and SD Channels carried on the Cable System. With respect to signal quality, Grantee shall not be required to carry a PEG Access Channel in a higher quality format than that of the Channel Signal delivered to Grantee, but Grantee shall distribute the Access Channel Signal without degradation.

(B) High Definition Access Channels

(1) For purposes of this Franchise, an HD signal refers to a television signal delivering picture resolution of either 720p or 1080i, 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.

(2) 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 City, Grantee shall verify signal delivery to Subscribers with the City, consistent with the requirements of this Section 9.2(B).

(3) 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; however, Grantee will provide free HD receiver equipment to each Designated Access Provider that is delivering a HD signal quality in order for the Designated Access Provider to monitor signal on the Subscriber system.

(4) The City or any Designated Access Provider is responsible for acquiring all equipment necessary to produce programming in HD.

(5) Grantee shall cooperate with the City to procure and provide 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 City shall be responsible for the costs of all production equipment necessary to deliver HD AV signals to the demarcation point at the designated point of origination for the Access Channels.

(C) 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 sixty (60) days after a written request for such use is submitted to City, if such Channel is not "fully utilized" as defined herein. A Channel shall be considered fully utilized if unduplicated programming is delivered over it more than an average of 28 hours per week over a six (6) month period. Programming that is repeated on an Access Channel up to two (2) times per day shall be considered "unduplicated programming." Character-generated programming shall be included for purposes of this subsection, but may be counted towards the total average hours only with respect to two (2) Channels provided to City. If a Channel allocated for Public, Educational, or Governmental Access use is 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. City 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 sixty (60) after receipt by Grantee of such written notice.

(D) If the City or its Designated Access Provider is programming an active Government or Educational Access Channel, within one hundred eighty (180) days of written request from the City, Grantee shall make available as part of Basic Service to all Subscribers a Government Access Video-on Demand (GAVOD) Service and maintain a GAVOD system. The GAVOD system shall be connected by the Grantee such that:

(1) Twenty (20) hours of programming per channel, or such greater amount as may be mutually agreed to by the parties, as designated and supplied by the City or its Designated Access Provider to the Grantee may be electronically transmitted and/or transferred and stored on the GAVOD system; and

(2) a database of that programming may be efficiently searched and a program requested and viewed over the GAVOD system by any Subscriber in the City; and

(3) programming submitted for placement on the GAVOD system, shall be placed on and available for viewing from the GAVOD system within forty-eight (48) hours of receipt of said programming;

(4) The hardware and software described in Subsection (D) below, shall be in all respects of the same or better technical quality as the hardware and software utilized by Grantee in the provision of any other video on demand services offered over the Cable System, and shall be upgraded at Grantee's cost, when new hardware or software is utilized on Grantee's Cable System for other video on demand services. Grantee shall provide reasonable technical assistance to allow for proper use and operation when

encoding hardware or software is installed and/or upgraded at City's facilities.

(E) To ensure compatibility and interoperability, the Grantee shall supply and maintain all necessary hardware and software to encode, transmit and/or transfer Government Access programming from the City to the GAVOD system. The City shall be responsible for all monitoring of any equipment provided under this Section 9.2(D), and notifying Grantee of any problems. Grantee shall provide all technical support and maintenance for the equipment provided to the City by Grantee under this Section 9.2 (D). After notification of any equipment problems, Grantee shall diagnose and resolve the problem within forty eight (48) hours. Major repairs which can't be repaired within the forty eight (48) hour timeframe shall be completed within seven (7) days of notice, unless, due to Force Majeure conditions, a longer time is required. "Major repairs" are those that require equipment to be specially obtained in order to facilitate the repairs. The quality of signal and the quality of service obtained by a Subscriber utilizing the GAVOD service shall meet or exceed the quality standards established for all other programming provided by the Grantee and as established elsewhere in this Franchise Agreement

### **9.3 Access Channel Assignments**

Grantee shall maintain or provide for the government Channel the current assignment of Channel 8 as designated on the Comcast cable system on the date of execution of this Franchise Agreement. To the extent that it is legally and technically feasible, Grantee will use its best efforts to institute common Channels among the CCUA members for the remaining Public, Educational, and Governmental Access Channels provided pursuant to this Franchise Agreement. The Grantee shall maintain common access channel designations with all other cable service providers serving the Franchise Area. In addition, Grantee will make reasonable efforts to locate HD Access Channels provided pursuant to Subsection 9.2 in a location on its HD Channel line-up that is easily accessible to Subscribers.

Upon ninety (90) days written notice to the City, Grantee, at its sole discretion, may elect to utilize a mosaic to display Access Channels. When a mosaic format is used, all Access Channels associated with a common theme (e.g., government or education) appear in a picture in a picture format on a single channel. If Grantee decides to use the mosaic format, the Access Channels will be made available to viewers on Channel 8. The viewer clicks on the picture in a picture he/she wishes view and is immediately routed to the individual channel assigned to that particular Access Channel.

### **9.4 Relocation of Access Channels**

Grantee shall provide City a minimum of sixty (60) days' notice, and use its best efforts to provide one-hundred and twenty (120) days notice, prior to the time Public, Educational, and Governmental Access Channel designations are changed. In addition, Grantee shall pay to City an amount equal to City's costs in remarketing the location of the Access Channels and managing the relocation administratively and technologically, up to a maximum of fifty cents (\$.50) per Subscriber. Any such amounts paid by Grantee may be added, at Grantee's discretion and in accordance with the applicable FCC regulations, to the price of Cable Services and collected from such Subscribers as "external costs" as such term is used in 47 C.F.R. Section

76.922, if Grantee's decision to relocate such Access Channels is required by federal, State, or local law. Grantee, at Grantee's expense, will place City's notices of the Channel change on its regular monthly billings, upon City's request. Despite any language to the contrary, and in order to maintain continuity of Channel position, no Access Channel shall be moved from its current position, as designated on the Comcast cable system.

## **9.5 Access Interconnections**

(A) Subject to Section 12.3 of this Franchise Agreement, Grantee shall establish all Interconnections of Access Channels in effect on the effective date of this Franchise Agreement unless otherwise agreed by Grantee and City. City or its designated Access provider shall have the right to control and schedule the operation of all Interconnected Access Channels. In addition, City shall have the right to use, at its sole discretion and at no cost to City, any existing Access Channels or any Access Channels to be provided under this Franchise Agreement for Access Interconnection or as Closed Channels, provided, however, that the City shall be responsible for the cost of any internal equipment necessary for such usage.

(B) Grantee shall, subject to Sections 9.3 and 12.3 of this Franchise Agreement, cooperate with City, and other members of the CCUA, in the establishment and continuance of a common Access Channel covering the entire metropolitan area.

(C) Grantee shall take all necessary technical steps to ensure that state-of-the-art signal quality and automated routing/switching systems are initially and continuously provided for all Access Interconnections throughout the duration of this Franchise Agreement. The cost for any equipment or maintenance dedicated to such Access Interconnection shall be the responsibility of the Grantee. The Grantee acknowledges that at certain times during the year, the City places metro wide programming on Channel 8. Since Grantee is technically unable to switch the individual Channel 8s to a metro wide Channel 8, Grantee agrees to provide an additional Government Access Channel on its basic service tier. Such Channel shall be available to the City for metro wide programming. The Designated Access Provider for this regional Channel is the CCUA. The host site for the Channel shall be at any CCUA member's Government Access location where Grantee is providing a direct fiber feed to Access origination facilities as described in Section 12.3. If Grantee is not providing a direct fiber feed to any CCUA Access origination facility, Grantee shall, at its cost, take necessary steps to facilitate a host site for the regional Channel.

## **9.6 Support for Access Costs**

During the term of this Franchise Agreement, Grantee shall provide one dollar and five cents (\$1.05) per month per Residential Subscriber (the "PEG Contribution") to be used solely for Public, Educational and Governmental Access and internal network costs. To the extent any other Cable Operator in the City is required to provide a PEG Contribution in excess of one dollar and five cents (\$1.05) per month per Residential Subscriber, Grantee shall likewise be required to collect and remit a higher PEG Contribution in the same amount as the other Cable Operator is collecting and remitting. Grantee shall make such payments quarterly, following the effective date of this Franchise Agreement for the preceding quarter ending March 31, June 30,

September 30, and December 31. Each payment shall be due and payable no later than thirty (30) days following the end of the quarter. City shall have sole discretion to allocate the expenditure of such payments for any PEG Access and/or internal network costs. The parties agree that this Franchise shall provide City discretion to utilize Access payments for new internal network connections and enhancements to the City's existing network.

#### **9.7 Access Support Not Franchise Fees**

Grantee agrees that financial 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 City. Grantee agrees that although the sum of Franchise Fees plus the payments set forth in this Section may total more than five percent (5%) of Grantee's Gross Revenues in any 12-month period, the additional commitments shall not be offset or otherwise credited in any way against any Franchise Fee payments under this Franchise Agreement.

#### **9.8 Access Channels On Lowest Priced Tier**

All Access Channels and the GAVOD Service provided to Subscribers under this Franchise Agreement shall be included by Grantee, without limitation, as a part of every tier containing basic Cable Service offered by Grantee on its Cable System.

#### **9.9 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 City's Access personnel to ensure that the capabilities of Access services are not diminished or adversely affected by such change.

#### **9.10 Technical Quality**

Grantee shall maintain all upstream and downstream Access services, Channels, Interconnections and GAVOD Service 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 and shall repair and replace all transmission equipment, including modulators, decoders, multiplex equipment, and associated cable and equipment necessary to carry a quality signal to and from City's facilities for the Access Channels provided under this Franchise Agreement.

#### **9.11 Access Cooperation**

City 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 City hereunder, or to

share in the use of Access services, Facilities, equipment or Channel operations 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 City in its sole discretion deems appropriate, and Grantee shall cooperate fully with, and in, any such arrangements by City.

### **9.12 Showcase Channel**

Unless the Federal Communications Commission determines in MB Docket No. 09-13, CSR-8126 or a similar proceeding that such treatment of PEG channels would be discriminatory, Grantee may, after ninety (90) days notice to the City and subscribers, consolidate all PEG channels to a single channel on the Basic Service Tier, so that all PEG channels could be accessed either as an application on a menu or as choices on the assigned channel; provided however, that any such change shall require, at a minimum that:

(A) At the sole discretion of the City, the single channel assignment will be Channel 8, or whatever channel number is utilized by the City's Government Access Channel.

(B) To the extent any existing Access Channels are re-assigned to the single channel referenced herein, the relocation requirements of Section 9.4 shall apply.

(C) The single channel application shall not in any way modify Grantee's obligations to comply with all interconnection obligations contained in Section 9.5.

(D) The single channel application shall not in any way modify Grantee's obligations to comply with all technical quality standards described in Section 9.5. Grantee shall transport and distribute the all Access Channel signals on its Cable System without visible or audible degradation of signal quality, and shall not discriminate against PEG Access Channels with respect to the functionality, signal quality, and features from those of the local broadcast digital format Channels carried on the Cable System.

(E) The Grantee shall include appropriate designation of the PEG channels on channel cards and other channel listings provided to Subscribers.

### **9.13 Return Lines/Access Origination**

Grantee shall, at its expense, construct and maintain Fiber Optic return line(s) to the Headend from the City's production facilities located at 1437 Bannock St, Denver. Grantee shall construct and maintain new Fiber Optic return lines to the Headend from production facilities of new or relocated Designated Access Providers delivering Access programming to Residential Subscribers. Construction from the Grantee's nearest interconnection point to the City's current Designated Access Providers shall be paid by the Grantee. New return lines shall be completed within one (1) year from the request of the City or its Designated Access Providers, 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 Laws, regulations, rules, resolutions and ordinances of the City 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 City, 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 City, 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 City.

### **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 City. As part of the permitting process, the City 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 City permits received by Grantee.

### **10.6 Emergency Permits**

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

### **10.7 Compliance with Applicable Codes**

(A) City Construction Codes. Grantee shall comply with all applicable City construction codes, including, without limitation, the Uniform Building Code and other building codes, the Uniform Fire Code, the Uniform Mechanical Code, the Electronic Industries Association Standard for Physical Location and Protection of Below-Ground Fiber Optic Cable Plant, and zoning codes and regulations.

(B) Tower Specifications. 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) Safety Codes. Grantee shall comply with all federal, State and City 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 City 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 City, 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 City'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 City 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 City 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 shall provide and use any equipment and facilities necessary to control and carry Grantee's signals so as to prevent injury to the City'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 City 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 City against any claims, costs, and expenses, of any kind, whether direct or indirect, incurred by the City 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 City 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 forty-eight (48) hours after any City 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 City's Customer Service Standards, as the same may be amended from time to time by the City 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 City 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 City 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 City'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 City 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 City or any other Person. Copies of agreements for the use of poles, conduits or other utility facilities must be provided upon request by the City.

(F) The Grantee and the City recognize that situations may occur in the future where the City may desire to place its own cable or conduit for Fiber Optic cable in trenches or bores opened by the Grantee. The Grantee agrees to cooperate with the City in any construction by the Grantee that involves trenching or boring, provided that the City has first notified the Grantee in some manner that it is interested in sharing the trenches or bores in the area where the Grantee's construction is occurring. The Grantee shall allow the City to lay its cable, conduit and Fiber Optic cable in the Grantee's trenches and bores, provided the City shares in the cost of the trenching and boring on the same terms and conditions as the Grantee at that time shares the total cost of trenches and bores. The City shall be responsible for maintaining its respective cable, conduit and Fiber Optic cable buried in the Grantee's trenches and bores under this paragraph.

#### **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) Depths. Unless otherwise required by law, Grantee, and its contractors, shall comply with the following burial depth standards. In no event shall Grantee be required to bury its cable deeper than electric or gas facilities, or existing telephone facilities in the same portion of the Right-of-Way, so long as those facilities have been buried in accordance with Applicable Law:

Underground cable drops from the curb shall be buried at a minimum depth of twelve (12) inches, unless a sprinkler system or other construction concerns preclude it, in which case, underground cable drops shall be buried at a depth of at least six (6) inches.

Feeder lines shall be buried at a minimum depth of eighteen (18) inches.

Trunk lines shall be buried at a minimum depth of thirty-six (36) inches.

Fiber Optic cable shall be buried at a minimum depth of thirty-six (36) inches.

In the event of a conflict between this subsection and the provisions of any customer service standard, this subsection shall control.

(B) Timeliness. 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 to the electrical power ground at the home, consistent with applicable code requirements. All non-conforming or non-performing cable drops shall be replaced by Grantee as necessary.

#### **10.18 Prewiring**

Any ordinance or resolution of the City 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 twenty-four (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) Rights-of-Way and Other Public Property. 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 City 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 thirty (30) days of receipt of an itemized list of those costs, including the costs of labor, materials and equipment, the Grantee shall pay the City.

(D) Private Property. 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 seventy-two (72) hours, considering the nature of the work that must be performed. Grantee shall also perform such restoration in accordance with the City's Customer Service Standards, as the same may be amended from time to time by the City Council acting by ordinance or resolution.

### **10.20 Use of Conduits by the City**

The City may install or affix and maintain wires and equipment owned by the City for City purposes in or upon any and all of Grantee's ducts, conduits or equipment in the Rights-of-Way and other public places, without charge to the City, 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, "City purposes" includes, but is not limited to, the use of the structures and installations for City fire, police, traffic, water, telephone, and/or signal systems, but not for Cable Service 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 City.

### **10.21 Common Users**

(A) For the purposes of this subsection:

(1) "Attachment" means any wire, optical fiber or other cable, and any related device, apparatus or auxiliary equipment, for the purpose of voice, video or data transmission.

(2) "Conduit" or "Conduit Facility" means any structure, or section thereof, containing one or more Ducts, conduits, manholes, handhole or other such facilities in Grantee's Cable System. These do not include conduit or other facilities owned by an affiliate of Grantee in the right-of-way to provide non-cable services.

(3) "Duct" means a single enclosed raceway for cables, Fiber Optics or other wires.

(4) "Licensee" means any Person licensed or otherwise permitted by the City to use the Rights-of-Way.

(5) "Surplus Ducts or Conduits" are Conduit Facilities other than those occupied by Grantee or any prior Licensee, or unoccupied Ducts held by Grantee as emergency use spares, or other unoccupied Ducts that Grantee reasonably expects to use within two (2) years from the date of a request for use.

(B) Grantee acknowledges that the Rights-of-Way have a finite capacity for containing Conduits. Therefore, Grantee agrees that whenever the City determines it is impracticable to permit construction of an underground Conduit system by any other Person which may at the time have authority to construct or maintain Conduits or Ducts in the Rights-of-Way, but excluding Persons providing Cable Services in competition with Grantee, the City may require Grantee to afford to such Person the right to use Grantee's Surplus Ducts or Conduits in common with Grantee, pursuant to the terms and conditions of an agreement for use of Surplus Ducts or Conduits entered into by Grantee and the Licensee. Nothing herein shall require Grantee to enter into an agreement with such Person if, in Grantee's reasonable determination, such an agreement could compromise the integrity of the Cable System.

(C) A Licensee occupying part of a Duct shall be deemed to occupy the entire Duct.

(D) Grantee shall give a Licensee a minimum of one hundred twenty (120) days notice of its need to occupy a licensed Conduit and shall propose that the Licensee take the first feasible action as follows:

(1) Pay revised Conduit rent designed to recover the cost of retrofitting the Conduit with multiplexing, Fiber Optics or other space-saving technology sufficient to meet Grantee's space needs;

(2) Pay revised Conduit rent based on the cost of new Conduit constructed to meet Grantee's space needs;

- (3) Vacate the needed Ducts or Conduit; or
- (4) Construct and maintain sufficient new Conduit to meet Grantee's space needs.

(E) When two or more Licensees occupy a section of Conduit Facility, the last Licensee to occupy the Conduit Facility shall be the first to vacate or construct new Conduit. When Conduit rent is revised because of retrofitting, space-saving technology or construction of new Conduit, all Licensees shall bear the increased cost.

(F) All Attachments shall meet local, State, and federal clearance and other safety requirements, be adequately grounded and anchored, and meet the provisions of contracts executed between Grantee and the Licensee. Grantee may, at its option, correct any attachment deficiencies and charge the Licensee for its costs. Each Licensee shall pay Grantee for any fines, fees, damages or other costs the Licensee's attachments cause Grantee to incur.

(G) In order to enforce the provisions of this subsection with respect to Grantee, the City must demonstrate that it has required that all similarly situated users of the Rights-of-Way to comply with the provisions of this subsection.

## **10.22 Acquisition of Facilities**

Upon Grantee's acquisition of Cable System facilities in any City Right-of-Way, or upon the addition to the City of any area in which Grantee owns or operates any facility, Grantee shall, at the City's request, submit to the City a statement describing all facilities involved, whether authorized by franchise, permit, license or other prior right, and specifying the location of all such facilities to the extent Grantee has possession of such information. Such facilities shall immediately be subject to the terms of this Franchise.

## **10.23 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 City'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 City permit it to remain in place. Notwithstanding Grantee's request that any such facility remain in place, the City 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 City 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 City. Until such time as Grantee removes or modifies the facility as directed by the City, 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

City may choose to use such facilities for any purpose whatsoever including, but not limited to, Access purposes.

#### **10.24 Movement of Cable System Facilities For City Purposes**

The City 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 City in the event of an emergency or when reasonable public convenience 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 City for public purposes). Such work shall be performed at the Grantee's expense. Except during an emergency, the City shall provide reasonable notice to Grantee, not to be less than five (5) business days, and allow Grantee with the opportunity to perform such action. In the event of any capital improvement project exceeding \$500,000 in expenditures by the City which requires the removal, replacement, modification or disconnection of Grantee's facilities or equipment, the City shall provide at least sixty (60) days' written notice to Grantee. Following notice by the City, 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 City. If the City requires Grantee to relocate its facilities located within the Rights-of-Way, the City 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 Rights-of-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 City's satisfaction, the City 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 City due to Grantee's delay. In such event, the City shall not be liable for any damage to any portion of Grantee's Cable System. Within thirty (30) days of receipt of an itemized list of those costs, the Grantee shall pay the City.

#### **10.25 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 City franchise holder, Grantee shall, after at least thirty (30) days' advance written notice, take action to effect the necessary changes requested by the responsible entity. Grantee may require that the costs associated with the removal or relocation be paid by the benefited party.

#### **10.26 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.

### **10.27 Reservation of City Use of Right-of-Way**

Nothing in this Franchise shall prevent the City or public utilities owned, maintained or operated by public entities other than the City 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.

### **10.28 Tree Trimming**

Grantee may prune or cause to be pruned, using proper pruning practices, any tree in the City's Rights-of-Way which interferes with Grantee's Cable System. Grantee shall comply with any general ordinance or regulations of the City regarding tree trimming. Except in emergencies, Grantee may not prune trees at a point below thirty (30) feet above sidewalk grade until one (1) 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 (1) 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.

### **10.29 Inspection of Construction and Facilities**

The City may inspect any of Grantee's facilities, equipment or construction at any time upon at least twenty-four (24) hours notice, or, in case of emergency, upon demand without prior notice. The City shall have the right to charge generally applicable inspection fees therefore. If an unsafe condition is found to exist, the City, 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 City establishes. The City has the right to correct, inspect, administer and repair the unsafe condition if Grantee fails to do so, and to charge Grantee therefore.

### **10.30 Stop Work**

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

(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.

### **10.31 Work of Contractors and Subcontractors**

Grantee's contractors and subcontractors shall be licensed and bonded in accordance with the City'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 Laws governing the work performed by them.

## **SECTION 11. CABLE SYSTEM, TECHNICAL STANDARDS AND TESTING**

### **11.1 Subscriber Network**

(A) Where Grantee chooses to install a Remote Terminal and to activate its Cable System, said System infrastructure shall be equivalent to or exceed technical characteristics of a traditional HFC 750 MHz Cable System and 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 ten (110) 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. In the case of AM/FM radio transmission, the above specifications, where applicable, shall apply.

(C) All construction shall be subject to the City's permitting process.

(D) Grantee and City shall meet, at the City'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 State of the Art**

Grantee shall, every three (3) years following the Effective Date of this Franchise, provide detailed information to the City about Cable Services offered in "similarly situated" Cable Systems as the Cable System in the City. For purposes of this subsection, "similarly situated" Cable Systems shall mean the sixteen (16) largest Cable Systems, based upon the number of Subscribers within a single franchising area, owned and operated by Grantee or its Affiliates in the United States. If such Cable Services are not also being offered on Grantee's Cable System in the City, Grantee shall provide information on why such Cable Services are not being offered in the City and the cost to supply such Cable Services. If the identified Cable Services are being offered to Subscribers by Grantee or its Affiliates in eight (8) or more of the similarly-situated Cable Systems, the City may require that Grantee make available such Cable Services on the Cable System in the City. Should the City determine that Grantee shall commence provision of such Cable Services, the City and Grantee shall negotiate a schedule for deployment that takes into consideration the impact on Subscriber rates, the ability of Grantee to recover the cost of such increased capacity or Cable Services over the remaining life of the Franchise from the incremental revenue derived from such additional Cable Services and the financial condition of Grantee. In addition, the City shall not be restricted from holding any hearing at any time to review whether or not the Cable System and the Cable Services offered by the Grantee are meeting demonstrated community needs. The parties recognize that, as of the Effective Date, the City is not permitted to require the provision of specific video programming pursuant to this subsection.

## **11.3 Standby Power**

Grantee shall not begin providing Cable Service in the City until it provides the City its process for standby power for the Remote DSLAMs in Grantee's Cable System. However, Grantee's Cable System Headend shall be capable of providing at least twelve (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 (4) hours. This outage plan and evidence of requisite implementation resources shall be presented to the City no later than thirty (30) days following receipt of a request.

## **11.4 Emergency Alert Capability**

(A) Grantee shall provide an operating Emergency Alert System (“EAS”) throughout the term of this Franchise in compliance with FCC standards. The City may use the EAS, under procedures established between the City and the Grantee which are consistent with Grantee’s State and federal EAS requirements, to transmit an emergency alert signal, including the ability to override the audio and video on all Channels throughout the City from the City’s Emergency Operations Center or other location as may be designated by the City. Grantee shall test the EAS as required by the FCC. Upon request, the City 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.

(B) The City shall permit only appropriately trained and authorized Persons to operate the EAS equipment provided pursuant to this subsection.

### **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 City 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, at Grantee's expense, perform the following tests on its Cable System:

- (1) All tests required by the FCC;
- (2) All other tests reasonably necessary to determine compliance with technical standards adopted by the FCC at any time during the term of this Franchise; and
- (3) All other tests as otherwise specified in this Franchise.

(B) At a minimum, Grantee's tests shall include:

- (1) Cumulative leakage index testing of any new construction;
- (2) Semi-annual compliance and proof of performance tests in conformance with generally accepted industry guidelines;
- (3) Tests in response to Subscriber complaints;
- (4) Periodic monitoring tests, at intervals not to exceed six (6) months, of Subscriber (field) test points, the Headend, and the condition of standby power supplies;

and

(5) Cumulative leakage index tests, at least annually, designed to ensure that one hundred percent (100%) of Grantee's Cable System has been ground or air tested for signal leakage in accordance with FCC standards.

(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 City upon request.

(D) If the FCC no longer requires proof of performance tests for Grantee's Cable System during the term of this Franchise, Grantee agrees that it shall continue to conduct proof of performance tests on the Cable System in accordance with the standards that were in place on the Effective Date, or any generally applicable standards later adopted, at least once a year, and provide written results of such tests to the City upon request.

(E) The FCC semi-annual testing is conducted in January/February and July/August of each year. If the City contacts Grantee prior to the next test period (*i.e.*, before December 15 and June 15 respectively of each year), Grantee shall provide City with no less than seven (7) days prior written notice of the actual date(s) for FCC compliance testing. If City notifies Grantee by the December 15th and June 15th dates that it wishes to have a representative present during the next test(s), Grantee shall cooperate in scheduling its testing so that the representative can be present. Notwithstanding the above, all technical performance tests may be witnessed by representatives of the City.

(F) Grantee shall be required to promptly take such corrective measures as are necessary to correct any performance deficiencies fully and to prevent their recurrence as far as possible. Grantee's failure to correct deficiencies identified through this testing process shall be a material violation of this Franchise. Sites shall be re-tested following correction.

### **11.7 Additional Tests**

Where there exists other evidence which in the judgment of the City casts doubt upon the reliability or technical quality of Cable Service, the City 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 City in performing such testing and shall prepare the results and a report, if requested, within thirty (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, INTERCONNECTION AND SERVICE TO SCHOOLS AND PUBLIC BUILDINGS**

### **12.1 Service Availability**

(A) The parties acknowledge that Grantee is the second entrant into the wireline video market in the City. As a second entrant, investment in and expansion of Grantee's Cable System should be driven by market success, and not a contractual requirement for ubiquitous coverage. However, Grantee agrees that its deployment of Cable Service in the City will be geographically dispersed throughout the City, and shall be made available to diverse residential neighborhoods of the City without discrimination. Accordingly, Grantee hereby agrees:

(1) For purposes of this subsection 12.1, "RT Service Radius" means an area within 4,000 cable-feet from an Activated Remote Terminal capable of providing Cable Service to Subscribers.

(2) No later than the second anniversary of the Effective Date of this Franchise, Grantee shall (i) make a minimum initial investment in the Cable System to ensure that Grantee has the capability to offer Cable Services to 15% of the Living Units in the City, and (ii) activate at least one (1) Remote Terminal capable of offering Cable Service in each of the eleven (11) city council electoral districts ("Council Districts") as defined in section 15-16 of the Denver Revised Municipal Code. Grantee agrees, as part of this initial deployment, Grantee will make Cable Service available to a minimum of one school or library located within each Council District in accordance with Section 12.3 below.

(3) Upon the second anniversary of the Effective Date of this Franchise, Grantee shall provide to the City a written report identifying:

- (a) The total number of Living Units throughout the City and in each Council District;
- (b) All Remote Terminals activated by the Grantee throughout the City;
- (b) All Remote Terminals activated in each Council District;
- (c) The geographic area within each Council District where the Grantee is capable of delivering Cable Service through a Fiber to the Home (FTTH) rather than a Fiber to the Node (FTTN) method of service delivery;

- (c) For each Council District, the estimated number of Living Units located within any RT Service Radius and capable of receiving Cable Service from Grantee through FTTN; and
- (d) For each Council District, the estimated number of Living Units capable of receiving Cable Service from Grantee through FTTH.
- (e) For each Council District, a list of the schools and libraries capable of receiving Cable Service from Grantee.

For each Council District, the total number of Living Units capable of receiving Cable Service either through FTTN or through FTTH shall be deemed the Initial District Coverage Threshold.

(3) The Grantee shall not be obligated under this Franchise to expand its Cable System beyond the Initial District Coverage Threshold in any particular Council District until twenty-seven and one-half percent (27.5%) of the Living Units in the Initial District Coverage Threshold purchase Cable Service from the Grantee (“Initial District Subscription Threshold”)

(4) Once the Grantee achieves the Initial District Subscription Threshold in any particular Council District, the Grantee shall within one (1) year activate at least one (1) additional Remote Terminal in that Council District and report to the City in writing the estimated number of Living Units located within the RT Services Areas for that Council District, taking into account the newly activated Remote Terminal or Terminals (“Additional District Coverage Threshold”). Grantee agrees that the Additional District Coverage Threshold shall make Cable Service available to a minimum of one school or library that was not identified in Section 12.1(a)(3)(e) above as being capable of receiving Cable Service from Grantee . This process shall be repeated pursuant to Section 12.1(a)(6) below until all schools and libraries for any particular Council District are capable of receiving Cable Service from Grantee.

(5) The Grantee shall not be obligated under this Franchise to expand its Cable System beyond the Additional District Coverage Threshold in any particular Council District until twenty-seven and one-half percent (27.5%) of the Living Units in the Additional District Coverage Threshold purchase Cable Service from the Grantee (“Additional District Subscription Threshold”)

(6) Once the Grantee achieves the Additional District Subscription Threshold in any particular Council District, the Grantee shall within one (1) year activate at least one (1) additional Remote Terminal in that Council District and report to the City in writing the estimated number of Dwelling Units located within the RT Services Areas for that Council District, taking into account

the newly activated Remote Terminal or Terminals. Thereafter, the process of adding at least one Remote Terminal within a Council District when the prior District Subscription Threshold is met will be continued until Grantee is capable of offering Cable Services to all Living Units within the Council District.

(7) If at any time during the term of this Franchisee it is determined by the City that the total number of Subscribers served by the Grantee is equal to more than fifty percent (50%) of the total number of Cable Service subscribers served by any and all Cable Providers operating within the City, then the Grantee shall provide Cable Service universally upon the request of any Person in the Franchise Area, subject to all other terms and conditions of this Franchise. If, however, at the time the Grantee achieves the fifty percent (50%) threshold of market success, the Grantee has not yet extended Cable Service to all areas of the City, then the City and the Grantee shall confer and agree to a reasonable time period for extending Cable Service to the remainder of the City, not to exceed four (4) years.

(8) In order to permit the City to monitor and enforce the provisions of this section and other provisions of this Franchise, the Grantee shall promptly provide to the City upon demand maps and other documentation showing exactly where within the City the Grantee is currently providing Cable Service either through FTTN or FTTH. Grantee shall meet with the City, not less than once quarterly, to demonstrate Grantee's compliance with the provisions of this Section concerning the deployment of Cable Services including, by way of example, the provisions of this section that prohibit discrimination in the deployment of Cable Services to certain neighborhoods on the basis of the income level of the residents of those neighborhoods.

(B) Grantee shall provide Cable Service under non-discriminatory rates and reasonable terms and conditions to all Subscribers who reside in Living Units within an activated RT Service Radius or in any location where the Grantee is capable of providing Cable Service through FTTH. Grantee shall not arbitrarily refuse to provide Cable Services to any Person within an activated RT Service Radius or in any location where the Grantee is capable of providing Cable Service through FTTH. Grantee shall provide information to the City clearly identifying an RT Service Radius immediately upon the Activation of the Remote Terminal which serves the area.

(C) Except as otherwise provided in this Franchise, where Grantee chooses to activate a Remote Terminal or in any location where the Grantee is capable of providing Cable Service through FTTH, Grantee shall provide Cable Services at its standard installation rates within seven (7) days of a request by any Person within an activated RT Service Radius or in any location where the Grantee is capable of providing Cable Service through FTTH. A request shall be deemed made on the date of signing a service agreement, receipt of funds by Grantee or receipt by Grantee of a verified verbal or written request.

(D) Grantee shall not deny Cable Services to any group of Subscribers or potential Residential Subscribers based upon the income level of residents of the local area in which such

group resides, nor shall Grantee base decisions about construction or maintenance of its Cable System or Facilities based upon the income level of residents of the local area in which such group resides.

(E) The Grantee shall offer the individual units of a multiple dwelling unit all Cable Services offered to other Dwelling Units in the City 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 City acknowledges that the grantee cannot control the dissemination of particular Cable Services beyond the point of demarcation at a multiple dwelling unit.

(F) While Grantee is granted a franchise to serve the entire City, subject to the provisions of this subsection 12.1, the parties acknowledge that Grantee shall have the sole discretion to determine where and when to activate a Remote Terminal or provide service through FTTH and offer Cable Services to Subscribers.

## **12.2 Interconnection with Other Cable Systems**

(A) The Cable System shall be Interconnected with other contiguous, CCUA area cable systems that are owned and operated by Grantee or an Affiliate, provided that such systems are served by the same Headend that serves the Franchise Area.

(B) Grantee shall, in accordance with this subsection, Interconnect the Access Channels of the Cable System with any other contiguous cable system not owned or operated by Grantee or an Affiliate of Grantee upon the directive of the City. Interconnection of Channels may be done by direct cable connection, microwave link, satellite or other appropriate methods. In the alternative, Grantee may provide a direct fiber feed to Access origination facilities in order to provide any Designated Access Provider with Access programming origination capabilities. The City shall not direct Interconnection except under circumstances where it can be accomplished without undue burden or excessive costs to the Subscribers. Grantee shall not be required to Interconnect with the other cable system unless the operator of that system is willing to do so and pays for its own cost of constructing and maintaining the Interconnect up to the demarcation point.

(C) Grantee shall only be required to Interconnect Access Channels with an overbuilder in the City in the event that the City determines in its sole discretion that it would be economically burdensome to its Subscribers to construct and maintain return lines directly from the origination point(s) of the Access Channel(s) versus Interconnecting with Grantee. In the event Grantee receives a directive from the City to Interconnect with an overbuilder, Grantee shall immediately initiate negotiations with the other affected cable system or systems and shall report to the City the results of such negotiations no later than sixty (60) days after such initiation. The overbuilder shall be responsible for Grantee's costs in constructing and maintaining the Interconnect. If the parties cannot reach agreement on the terms of the Interconnect, including compensation and timing, the dispute shall be submitted to the City for determination and resolution. Additionally, Grantee shall only be required to Interconnect with

an overbuilder if the overbuilder is providing similar support for Access as required of Grantee pursuant to this Franchise.

(D) Grantee shall explore with any public interconnection authority, regional interconnection authority or City, County, State or federal regulatory agency which may hereafter be established for the purpose of regulating, financing or otherwise providing for the Interconnection of cable systems beyond the boundaries of the City, the possibility of further Interconnects.

### **12.3 Connection of Public Facilities**

Grantee shall, at no cost to the City, provide one outlet of Basic Service and Expanded Basic Service to all City owned and occupied buildings, schools and public libraries located in areas where Grantee provides Cable Service, so long as these facilities are located within four thousand (4,000) feet of an activated Remote Terminal. For purposes of this subsection, “school” means all State-accredited K-12 public and private schools. Such obligation to provide free Cable Service shall not extend to areas of City buildings where the Grantee would normally enter into a commercial contract to provide such Cable Service (*e.g.*, golf courses, airport restaurants and concourses, and recreation center work out facilities). Outlets of Basic and Expanded Basic 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. Such outlets may only be used for lawful purposes.

## **SECTION 13. FRANCHISE VIOLATIONS**

### **13.1 Procedure for Remedying Franchise Violations**

(A) If the City reasonably believes that Grantee has failed to perform any obligation under this Franchise or has failed to perform in a timely manner, the City 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 City, contesting the City's assertion that a default has occurred, and requesting a meeting in accordance with subsection (B), below; or
- (2) cure the default; or
- (3) notify the City 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 City in writing and in detail as to the exact steps that will be taken and the projected completion date. In such case, the City 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 City orders a meeting in accordance with subsection (A)(3), the City shall set a meeting to investigate said issues or the existence of the alleged default. The City 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 City determines that a default exists, the City shall order Grantee to correct or remedy the default or breach within fifteen (15) days or within such other reasonable time frame as the City shall determine. In the event Grantee does not cure within such time to the City's reasonable satisfaction, the City may:

- (1) Withdraw an amount from the letter of credit as monetary damages;
- (2) Pursue the revocation of this Franchise pursuant to the procedures in subsection 13.2; or
- (3) Pursue any other legal or equitable remedy available under this Franchise or any Applicable Law.

(D) The determination as to whether a violation of this Franchise has occurred shall be within the discretion of the City, provided that any such final determination may be subject to appeal to a court of competent jurisdiction under Applicable Law.

### **13.2 Revocation**

(A) In addition to revocation in accordance with other provisions of this Franchise, the City may revoke this Franchise and rescind all rights and privileges associated with this Franchise in the following circumstances, each of which represents a material breach of this Franchise:

- (1) If Grantee fails to perform any material obligation under this Franchise or under any other agreement, ordinance or document regarding the City and Grantee;
- (2) If Grantee willfully fails for more than forty-eight (48) hours to provide continuous and uninterrupted Cable Service;
- (3) If Grantee attempts to evade any material provision of this Franchise or to practice any fraud or deceit upon the City or Subscribers; or
- (4) If Grantee becomes insolvent, or if there is an assignment for the benefit of Grantee's creditors;
- (5) If Grantee makes a material misrepresentation of fact in the application for

or negotiation of this Franchise.

(B) Following the procedures set forth in subsection 13.1 and prior to forfeiture or termination of the Franchise, the City shall give written notice to the Grantee of its intent to revoke the Franchise and set a date for a revocation proceeding. The notice shall set forth the exact nature of the noncompliance.

(C) Any proceeding under the paragraph above shall be conducted by the City Council and open to the public. Grantee shall be afforded at least forty-five (45) days prior written notice of such proceeding.

(1) At such proceeding, Grantee shall be provided a fair opportunity for full participation, including the right to be represented by legal counsel, to introduce evidence, and to question witnesses. A complete verbatim record and transcript shall be made of such proceeding and the cost shall be shared equally between the parties. The City Council shall hear any Persons interested in the revocation, and shall allow Grantee, in particular, an opportunity to state its position on the matter.

(2) Within ninety (90) days after the hearing, the City Council shall determine whether to revoke the Franchise and declare that the Franchise is revoked and the letter of credit forfeited; or if the breach at issue is capable of being cured by Grantee, direct Grantee to take appropriate remedial action within the time and in the manner and on the terms and conditions that the City Council determines are reasonable under the circumstances. If the City determines that the Franchise is to be revoked, the City shall set forth the reasons for such a decision and shall transmit a copy of the decision to the Grantee. Grantee shall be bound by the City's decision to revoke the Franchise unless it appeals the decision to a court of competent jurisdiction within fifteen (15) days of the date of the decision.

(3) Grantee shall be entitled to such relief as the Court may deem appropriate.

(4) The City Council may at its sole discretion take any lawful action which it deems appropriate to enforce the City's rights under the Franchise in lieu of revocation of the Franchise.

### **13.3 Procedures in the Event of Termination or Revocation**

(A) If this Franchise expires without renewal or is otherwise lawfully terminated or revoked, the City may, subject to Applicable Law:

(1) Allow Grantee to maintain and operate its Cable System on a month-to-month 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 City'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 13.4, below.

(B) In the event that a sale has not been completed in accordance with subsections (A)(1) and/or (A)(2) above, the City may order the removal of the above-ground Cable System facilities and such underground facilities from the City at Grantee's sole expense within a reasonable period of time as determined by the City. In removing its plant, structures and equipment, Grantee shall refill, at its 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 13.3 (B) to the City's satisfaction, after written notice to Grantee, the City may cause the work to be done and Grantee shall reimburse the City for the costs incurred within thirty (30) days after receipt of an itemized list of the costs, or the City may recover the costs through the letter of credit provided by Grantee.

(D) The City may seek legal and equitable relief to enforce the provisions of this Franchise.

#### **13.4 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 City shall have the option to purchase the Cable System.

(B) The City may, at any time thereafter, offer in writing to purchase Grantee's Cable System. Grantee shall have thirty (30) days from receipt of a written offer from the City within which to accept or reject the offer.

(C) In any case where the City elects to purchase the Cable System, the purchase shall be closed within one hundred twenty (120) days of the date of the City's audit of a current profit and loss statement of Grantee. The City 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 City would assume.

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

### **13.5 Receivership and Foreclosure**

(A) At the option of the City, subject to Applicable Law, this Franchise may be revoked one hundred twenty (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 one hundred twenty (120) days of appointment; or

(2) The receivers or trustees have, within one hundred twenty (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 City 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 City 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 City to assume and be bound by all of the terms and conditions of this Franchise.

### **13.6 No Monetary Recourse Against the City**

Grantee shall not have any monetary recourse against the City 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 City under this Franchise are in addition to, and shall not be read to limit, any immunities the City may enjoy under federal, State or local law.

### **13.7 Alternative Remedies**

No provision of this Franchise shall be deemed to bar the right of the City 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 City 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.

### **13.8 Assessment of Monetary Damages**

(A) The City may assess against Grantee monetary damages up to five hundred dollars (\$500.00) per day for general construction delays, up to two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00) per day for any other material breaches, or up to one hundred dollars (\$100.00) per day for defaults, and withdraw the assessment from the letter of credit or collect the assessment as specified in this Franchise. To assess any amount from the letter of credit, City shall follow the procedures for withdrawals from the letter of credit set forth in the letter of credit and-in this Franchise. Such damages shall accrue beginning thirty (30) days following Grantee's receipt of the notice required by subsection 13.1(A), or such later date if approved by the City in its sole discretion, but may not be assessed until after the procedures in subsection 13.1 have been completed.

(B) The assessment does not constitute a waiver by City of any other right or remedy it may have under the Franchise or Applicable Law, including its right to recover from Grantee any additional damages, losses, costs and expenses that are incurred by City by reason of the breach of this Franchise.

### **13.9 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 City, 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 City, or until the Franchise is revoked and a new franchisee is selected by the City; or obtain an injunction requiring the Grantee to continue operations. If the City is required to operate or designate another entity to operate the Cable System, the Grantee shall reimburse the City or its designee for all reasonable costs, expenses and damages incurred.

### **13.10 What Constitutes Abandonment**

The City shall be entitled to exercise its options in subsection 13.9 if:

(A) The Grantee fails to provide Cable Service in accordance with this Franchise over a substantial portion of the Franchise Area for four (4) consecutive days, unless the City 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 City and Grantee agree that any proceedings undertaken by the City 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 City 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 City agree that at any time during the term of the then current Franchise, while affording the public adequate notice and opportunity for comment, the City and Grantee may agree to undertake and finalize negotiations regarding renewal of the then current Franchise and the City may grant a renewal thereof. Grantee and City consider the terms set forth in this subsection to be consistent with the express provisions of Section 626 of the Cable Act.

## 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 City, which consent shall be by the City Council/Commission, acting by ordinance/resolution.

(B) The Grantee shall promptly notify the City 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 City shall have consented in writing thereto.

(C) The parties to the sale or transfer shall make a written request to the City for its approval of a sale or transfer and furnish all information required by law and the City.

(D) In seeking the City'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 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 City 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 City shall act by ordinance on the request within one hundred twenty (120) days of the request, provided it has received all requested information. Subject to the foregoing, if the City fails to render a final decision on the request within one hundred twenty (120) days, such request shall be deemed granted unless the requesting party and the City agree to an extension of time.

(F) Within thirty (30) days of any transfer or sale, if approved or deemed granted by the City, Grantee shall file with the City 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 City may inquire into the legal, technical and financial qualifications of the prospective controlling party or transferee, and Grantee shall assist the City in so inquiring. The City 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 City 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 City 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 City; 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 City or the Grantee by written notice at any time. At the Effective Date of this Franchise:

Grantee's address shall be:

Qwest Broadband Services, Inc., d/b/a CenturyLink  
1801 California Street,  
10<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Denver, CO 80202

The City's address shall be:

City of Denver  
Attn: Alan DeLollis, Denver Media Services  
1437 Bannock St, Room 002  
Denver, CO 80202

### **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 City 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 City at any time to require performance by the Grantee of any provision hereof shall in no way affect the right of the City hereafter to enforce the same. Nor shall the waiver by the City 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 City and Grantee arising under or out of this Franchise shall be in Denver County District Court, Colorado, or in the United States District Court in Denver.

**[REMAINDER OF PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK.]**

*REVISED: 2-5-15*

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this Franchise is signed in the name of the City of Denver, Colorado this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2015.

SEAL  
ATTEST:

CITY OF DENVER COLORADO:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk and Recorder

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM:  
D. Scott Martinez, Attorney for  
the City and County of Denver

REGISTERED AND COUNTERSIGNED BY:

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
City Attorney

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Contract Control Number:

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Contractor Name: Qwest Broadband Services Inc.

Accepted and approved this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2015.

ATTEST:

QWEST BROADBAND SERVICES, INC., d/b/a/  
CENTURYLINK

\_\_\_\_\_  
Public Notary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name/Title: Steve Davis, EVP Public Policy and  
Government Relations

UNCONDITIONAL ACCEPTANCE OF FRANCHISE

The undersigned, \_\_\_\_\_, hereby accepts Ordinance/Resolution No. \_\_\_\_\_, passed and adopted by the City of Denver pursuant to which Qwest Broadband Services, Inc., d/b/a CenturyLink is granted a Franchise to operate a cable system in the City of Denver in accordance with the terms of such Franchise, and does hereby unconditionally agree that it will comply with and abide by all the provisions, terms and conditions of the Franchise, subject to applicable federal, state and local law., and that as written and to the best of its knowledge, all

**REVISED: 2-5-15**

terms of the Franchise are consistent with federal, state and local law, as of the date this acceptance is signed.

Accepted and approved this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2015.

ACKNOWLEDGED:

QWEST BROADBAND SERVICES, INC.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Public Notary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name/Title: Steve Davis, EVP Public Policy  
and Government Relations

**EXHIBIT A:**

**CUSTOMER SERVICE STANDARDS**

**EXHIBIT B**

**Report Form**

Quarterly Executive Summary - Escalated Complaints

Section 7.6 (B) of our Franchise Agreement

Quarter Ending \_\_\_\_\_, Year

Denver

<b><u>Type of Complaint</u></b>	<b><u>Number of Calls</u></b>
Accessibility	
Billing, Credit and Refunds	
Courtesy	
Drop Bury	
Installation	
Notices/Easement Issues (Non-Rebuild)	
Pedestal	
Problem Resolution	
Programming	
Property Damage (Non-Rebuild)	
Rates	
Rebuild/Upgrade Damage	
Rebuild/Upgrade Notices/Easement Issues	
Reception/Signal Quality	
Safety	
Service and Install Appointments	
Service Interruptions	
Serviceability	
<b><u>TOTAL</u></b>	

Compliments