

MISSION

The Mt. Hood Cable Regulatory Commission advocates for and protects the public interest in the regulation and development of cable communications systems in Multnomah County and the Cities of Fairview, Gresham, Portland, Troutdale and Wood Village; provides consumer protection and complaint resolution assistance to cable subscribers; and participates in the planning and implementation of community uses of communications technologies.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Effective: July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020

The Commission acknowledges that its policy and regulatory work is undertaken in a dynamic communications technology environment. Consequently, the Commission retains flexibility to modify or revise these Goals and Objectives as may be required from time to time.

Goal I: *Effectively administer cable services franchise agreements to serve our member jurisdictions and their residents.*

Objectives

1. Identify and address franchise compliance issues in response to and, when possible, prior to cable company actions.
2. Provide consumer protection for citizens and subscribers in cable service matters by helping to resolve complaints, enforcing customer service standards and addressing other consumer-related franchise compliance issues.
3. Conduct three-year franchise and PEG/I-Net fees review of payments from Comcast, Century Link and Frontier.
4. Design and conduct a Community Technology Needs Ascertainment in order to prepare for the renewal process for Comcast and Century Link franchises, which expire December 2021.

Goal II: *Focus the community grants program on key impacts for addressing needs and equity issues identified through the MHCRC's Your Voice, Our Communications Technology initiative to guide the financial investment of capital funds in the community.*

Objectives

1. Conduct the annual Community Technology Grants round to continue development of public, educational and governmental uses of cable system technology.
2. Continue TechSmart Initiative grant partnerships with school districts in Multnomah County to implement and share effective instructional practices and strategies, which use technology to foster improvement in student academic outcomes and reduce the achievement gap.
3. Conduct the annual TechSmart Initiative evaluation for school year 2018-19.



MT. HOOD CABLE REGULATORY COMMISSION

Serving Multnomah County and the Cities of
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4. Produce an impact report to document results and shared learnings for the first round of TechSmart grants.
5. Organize and facilitate the annual TechSmart “shared learning” work session among school districts.
6. Develop the final round of grants under the TechSmart Initiative.
7. Utilize the grants management system, financial models and evaluation tools to provide efficiencies overall in managing fund allocation, accountability and evaluation of impact.
8. Monitor grant projects to ensure accountability for grant funds and project activities.

Goal III: *Ensure access to and use of current and new services available through the cable system technology by citizens, local governments and community institutions.*

Objectives

1. Facilitate and manage Community Institutional Network (I-Net) partnership and network planning in order to leverage this low cost, high quality resource as a key tool for public organizations to communicate, inform and deliver services to their constituencies.
2. Work with public agencies, schools, and libraries to pilot next generation I-Net options and use cases.
3. Monitor and ensure accountability for capital funds paid to Open Signal and MetroEast Community Media.
4. Collaborate with organizations, at the federal, state and local levels, to advocate for the community’s access to cable system technology.
5. Partner with the City of Portland and Multnomah County and other community groups in developing and implementing strategic actions and initiatives in support of the Digital Equity Action Plan.

Goal IV: *Communicate, educate, and respond in a timely, accurate, and clear manner to our jurisdictions, cable subscribers and the general public regarding communications technology policy and regulatory issues.*

Objectives

1. Communicate with jurisdictions’ elected officials and key staff in order to educate and support them about cable franchising regulatory and funding issues and what’s at stake for our communities.
2. Support our member jurisdictions in implementing FCC rules and federal laws related to cable and broadband.
3. Support and provide resources for the development of Commissioners’ education and expertise.
4. Engage stakeholders (Jurisdictions, public institutions, community organizations, etc.) to assess their current and future local technology and broadband capacity needs as part of the Community Technology Needs Ascertainment.



MT. HOOD CABLE

REGULATORY COMMISSION
of way by communication providers.

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Objectives

1. Continue cross-jurisdictional collaborations for information-sharing and coordinated strategies on issues of common concern.
2. Participate in statewide committees or groups that address local government authority, management and control of public rights of way, such as the Oregon Broadband Advisory Committee and League of Oregon Cities public policy committee.
3. Monitor and participate in FCC proceedings on behalf of our jurisdictions' and citizens' interests.
4. Advocate for local authority and public interest benefits at the federal legislative level.

Goal VI: *Lead Commission operations efficiently and effectively.*

Objectives

1. Fulfill Intergovernmental Agreement and Rules of Procedure administrative responsibilities.
2. Continue to engage with the City of Portland on the placement and structure of the MHCRC staff services within the City of Portland to ensure transparency and continued provision of a high level of service to MHCRC's stakeholders and communities.
3. Plan and conduct Commission meetings in a way that respects the volunteer nature of Commission positions and is in accordance with Oregon Open Meeting laws.
4. Conduct annual strategic planning and goal-setting process.
5. Conduct annual MHCRC evaluation of staff services.
6. Conduct annual MHCRC Fund Audit and transmit it to the Oregon Secretary of State's Office.
7. Present an annual budget request to the Jurisdictions that supports the Commission's mission and respects the Jurisdictions' budget considerations.