



# Mt. Hood Cable Regulatory Commission

*Serving Multnomah County and the Cities of Fairview, Gresham, Portland, Troutdale & Wood Village*

## MHCRC Dissolution FAQs

**1. What is happening to the Mt. Hood Cable Regulatory Commission (MHCRC)?**

The Mt. Hood Cable Regulatory Commission (MHCRC) is in the process of dissolving and is taking formal steps to wind down its operations. The MHCRC's member jurisdictions are currently negotiating an Inter-Governmental Agreement (IGA) that will govern how current MHCRC services will be handled moving forward. More information will be shared on MHCRC.org as decisions are finalized.

**2. Has a decision been made to dissolve the MHCRC?**

Yes. The member jurisdictions – the Cities of Portland, Gresham, Fairview, Troutdale, and Wood Village, and Multnomah County – agreed to dissolve the commission. This decision is consistent with the MHCRC's recommendation to dissolve, which emerged during the commission's recent strategic planning process.

These aligned actions resulted in the jurisdictions finalizing and signing a formal dissolution agreement in January 2026. The full text of the agreement is available on the MHCRC website.

**3. When would any changes take effect?**

The MHCRC will continue operating as normal through June 30, 2026, with changes taking effect July 1, 2026.

**4. Why is the current MHCRC structure no longer sustainable?**

The current MHCRC structure is no longer sustainable due to the persistent and irreversible decline in cable TV revenues. As fewer households subscribe to traditional cable services, the fees that fund cable regulation and public, educational, and government (PEG) access have steadily decreased, with no replacement revenue source available under current law. Dissolving the commission allows the member jurisdictions to conserve remaining PEG and cable franchise resources to use them more directly.

**5. What has changed in cable revenues and the regulatory environment?**

The decline in cable revenue is the result of regulatory, economic, and technological factors. Since the early 1990s, communications technology has been slowly shifting away from traditional telephone and broadcast television towards unified internet services. The federal regulatory structures that govern cable television have not kept pace with this transition, and consumer preferences have shifted toward on-demand internet streaming services. The combined impact of these factors is a permanent decline in cable revenues.

**6. Will the broadcasting of public meetings continue?**

Yes, member jurisdictions' public meetings will continue to be broadcasted. Each jurisdiction manages the mechanisms by which public meetings are broadcasted.

**7. How will community media centers be funded going forward?**

For information about the impacts on community media centers, you can reach out to them directly. The contacts for Open Signal and MetroEast can be found on their respective websites.

**8. What happens to existing Community Technology Grants?**

Existing Community Technology Grants and grants awarded during fiscal year 2025–2026 will be managed to completion. Grant recipients will continue to work with City of Portland staff on reporting and compliance requirements. For further questions or inquiries, please contact Rana DeBey ([rana.debey@portlandoregon.gov](mailto:rana.debey@portlandoregon.gov)).

**9. Will there be any new community technology grants in the future?**

Any future community technology grant opportunities supported by PEG funding will depend on how the individual jurisdictions formerly represented by the commission decide to allocate these funds.

**10. How will cable-related complaints and franchise oversight be handled?**

The MHCRC's member jurisdictions are still discussing who will handle cable-related complaints and franchise oversight.

**11. What happens next, and how will the public be kept informed?**

Please check the MHCRC website for further updates as we release more information. You can also sign up for updates from the City of Portland's Community Technology newsletter.

