

**MT. HOOD CABLE REGULATORY COMMISSION  
INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT  
AS AMENDED MARCH 1998**

THIS AGREEMENT is between each of the cities of Fairview, Wood Village, Troutdale, Gresham and Portland, all municipal corporations duly incorporated under the laws of the State of Oregon, and Multnomah County, a home rule county formed under the laws of the State of Oregon, hereinafter referred to as the "Jurisdictions." This Agreement is made pursuant to ORS 190.003 to ORS 190.110, the general laws and constitution of the State of Oregon, and the laws and charters of the Jurisdictions.

Section 1. General Purposes. The Jurisdictions have each separately entered into various franchise agreements providing for the construction and operation of cable communications systems within their boundaries. The City of Portland created the Portland Cable Regulatory Commission, and Multnomah County, Gresham, Troutdale, Fairview and Wood Village created the Multnomah Cable Regulatory Commission, each with the general purpose to regulate and administer cable franchise agreements for the Jurisdictions. The Jurisdictions wish to form a unified cable regulatory commission. The formation of a unified regulatory commission serves the public interest in that the boundaries of the Jurisdictions do not necessarily coincide with the service areas of the Grantees, or with the needs of the citizens within each Jurisdiction or franchise, regarding cable communications. In addition, a unified commission can provide enhanced public benefits in franchising and regulation, and economies of scale in its operation.

To further this public interest and these purposes, the Jurisdictions desire to create a unified cable regulatory commission to jointly regulate and administer franchise agreements within their boundaries. The commission will further serve as an advisory body to the Jurisdictions on matters relating to cable communications and function as the Jurisdictions' representative for regional, state or national cable communications policy matters.

Section 2. Definitions.

A. "Cable Communications System" or "System" - any system of antennas, cables, amplifiers, towers, microwave links, cable casting studios, and any other conductors, receivers, home terminals, convertors, equipment or facilities, designed and constructed for the purpose of producing, receiving, amplifying, storing, processing or distributing audio, video, digital or other forms of electronic or electrical signals.

B. "Commission" means the Mt. Hood Cable Regulatory Commission as formed under this Intergovernmental Agreement.

C. "Grantee" - any person who is authorized by a franchise agreement or seeks authority to construct, operate and maintain a cable communications system operated within the territories of the Jurisdictions.

D. "Jurisdiction" - any municipality or county which enters into this Agreement.

E. "Multnomah Community Television" means the designated provider of PEG access for the cities of Fairview, Gresham, Troutdale and Wood Village, and Multnomah County.

F. "PEG" means public, educational and governmental cable access within the meaning of franchise agreements administered by the Commission, and applicable law.

G. "Person" - any corporation, partnership, proprietorship, association, individual or organization authorized to do business in the State of Oregon, or any natural person.

Section 3. Commission Creation and Powers. A unified regulatory commission, the Commission is created to carry out the purposes set forth in this Agreement and to administer the cable communications franchises granted by the Jurisdictions. The Commission is vested with all the powers, rights and duties necessary to carry out these purposes that are vested by law in each Jurisdiction, its officers and agencies, subject only to the limitations contained in this Agreement and in the cable communications franchise agreements. "Law" includes the federal laws and Constitution, the Oregon constitution and laws as well as the charters, ordinances and other regulations of each Jurisdiction.

A. Regulatory Authority. The Commission has the authority to act on behalf of the Jurisdictions jointly and separately, and in its own right, to oversee and regulate any cable communications system operated pursuant to the cable communications franchise agreements entered into by the Jurisdictions. The Commission has full authority to take any action necessary to enforce or administer franchise agreements for operation of cable communications systems, except where the power to take a specific action is either limited or reserved to the Jurisdictions by the provisions of Section 4 of this Agreement.

B. Contracting Authority. The Commission may make such contracts, grants, and take such other action as it deems necessary and appropriate to accomplish the general purposes of this Agreement. All contracts made shall conform to the requirements of Oregon law.

#### Section 4. Powers Retained by Jurisdictions.

A. Discretionary Review. Commission action to; (1) find a Grantee in violation of its franchise agreement, or; (2) impose any penalty or financial remedy, or; (3) regulate, establish or approve any Grantee rate or charge, or; (4) determining PEG capital grant purposes and evaluation criteria as set forth in Section 9.E.2 of this Agreement, shall become effective 30 days after the Commission's final decision. Any such Commission final decision shall not be effective unless a copy of the final decision is filed with the Recorder of each affected Jurisdiction within 10 days of such action. Such final decisions are subject to review by the governing body of each affected Jurisdiction. Within a 30-day period, any affected Jurisdiction may notify the Commission of its intent to exercise review authority. The Commission shall notify all affected Jurisdictions within 10

days of receiving the review notice. If a majority of the affected Jurisdictions acts within 60 days to overturn the Commission's final decision, such decision shall not become effective, and the matter shall be returned to the Commission for further proceedings as directed by the affected Jurisdictions.

1. Affected Jurisdiction means any Jurisdiction which is a party to the franchise agreement with the Grantee to which the Commission's final decision applies.

2. Recorder means a Jurisdiction's Clerk, Recorder or Auditor.

B. Full Authority. As set forth herein, the Jurisdictions reserve the authority to act on their own behalf. Each Jurisdiction agrees to make a good faith effort to weigh the impact of such actions on the overall operation of a cable system and the continuity of the Commission. Each Jurisdiction agrees to take no action in these areas until the Commission has had a prior opportunity to consider the matter.

Authority retained by the Jurisdictions includes:

1. Any decision to grant, revoke, terminate, extend, amend, renew or refuse to renew a franchise agreement.

2. Any decision concerning a change of ownership or control of a cable communications system or a Grantee.

3. Any decision to purchase or condemn a Grantee's interest, in part or in whole, whether or not pursuant to a termination, revocation or expiration of a franchise agreement.

4. Any decision regarding cable regulation which requires adoption of any ordinance or resolution by the Jurisdictions.

5. Any decision which requires the amendment of this Agreement.

6. Any authority which is reserved to or retained by the Jurisdictions by franchise agreement and which may not otherwise be delegated to the Commission.

#### Section 5. Commission Members.

A. The Composition. The Commission shall be composed of Commissioners appointed by the Jurisdictions. Each Jurisdiction, except Portland, shall select and appoint one representative to serve as its Commissioner. Portland shall select and appoint three representatives to serve as its Commissioners.

B. Quorum and Voting. The majority of the members of the Commission shall constitute a quorum. No Commission action shall be in effect except on a majority vote by those Commissioners present.

C. Term of Office and Succession. Commissioners shall be appointed to serve until their successors are appointed and assume their responsibilities, but shall serve under procedures authorized by the governing body of the Jurisdiction appointing them. However, a Jurisdiction's appointee shall not have any ownership interest in a Grantee. A vacancy on the Commission shall be filled by the governing body of the Jurisdiction whose position on the Commission is vacant.

Section 6. Meetings, Rules of Procedure and Officers.

A. Meetings to be Public. Meetings of the Commission shall be conducted pursuant to the Oregon Public Meetings law.

B. Rules of Procedure. At the first organizational meeting, or as soon thereafter as practicable, the Commission shall adopt rules governing its procedures including, but not limited to:

1. Times and places of regular meetings;
2. The method and manner of calling special meetings;
3. The method, term and manner of election of officers;
4. The responsibilities and duties of officers; and
5. The procedures for execution of writings and legal documents.

C. Officers. At the first organizational meeting, the Commission shall elect from among its members an interim chairperson and an interim vice-chairperson. The chairperson, and in his or her absence the vice-chairperson, shall preside at all meetings, call special meetings, and determine the order of business, until such time as rules requiring otherwise are adopted.

Section 7. Administration and Staffing Services. The Commission shall contract with the City of Portland (the City) for administrative services as described in the attached Administrative Services Agreement (Exhibit 1). The Commission is authorized to amend, extend, or terminate the Administrative Services Agreement.

Section 8. Transfer of Staff and Assets.

A. Transferred Employees.

1. Upon termination of the administrative services agreement between the Commission and Multnomah County (the County), the County shall transfer Julie S. Omelchuck to the City's Office of Cable Communications and Franchise Management (Cable Office), providing that the County is no longer performing any cable regulatory services. Pursuant to ORS 236.630, Julie S. Omelchuck shall be placed in a position found by the City to be comparable to the position she enjoyed under the County's employment.

The City shall consider Julie S. Omelchuck's education and physical qualifications, experience, and the salary, duties and responsibilities of her prior employment. The County shall furnish all of Julie S. Omelchuck's employment records to the City at the time of transfer. No affected employee shall be deprived of their employment by the County solely because of the transfer of administrative cable regulatory services to the City. The County shall find positions of employment within the County for all other affected employees.

2. The County shall pay each transferred employee all holiday and compensatory time, and any vacation leave time in excess of eighty hours, accumulated by such employee up to the date of the transfer. In addition, funds shall be transferred to the City from within the existing County cable office budget to cover accumulated sick leave, up to the date of transfer, for each transferred employee. The final amount of the payment for accumulated sick leave shall be determined by mutual agreement between the City and the Commission. The County shall reimburse the City for insurance premium costs, if any, resulting from health insurance coverage of preexisting conditions for any transferred employees. If at any time in the future Julie S. Omelchuck transfers back to the County by operation of the terms of Section 8A, the obligations for holiday, compensatory time and vacation leave time under this subsection shall apply equally to the City.

3. Any employees transferred by the County to the Cable Office shall be returned to the County if the transferred employee remains in a comparable employment position within the Cable Office and any one of the following events occurs: 1. The administrative services agreement between the City and the Commission is terminated; 2. The City withdraws from this Agreement; 3. The County withdraws from this Agreement; or 4. The Commission is dissolved under the terms of this Agreement.

4. This consolidation has presented unique circumstances resulting in the employee transfer provisions set forth in this Section. Due to these unique circumstances, the agreements contained in this Section shall not serve as precedent for any future employee transfer discussions between the City and the County.

B. Equipment assets, as listed in Exhibit 2, and general office supplies of the Multnomah Cable Regulatory Commission shall physically transfer to the City and shall become assets of the Commission.

C. The Jurisdictions shall share in the start up costs of the Commission proportionate to the FY 1993-94 budget contribution percentage of the respective Jurisdictions.

#### Section 9. Receiving and Distributing Funds.

A. The Commission shall comply with applicable state and local laws as to budget preparation and for audit of its books and records. The Jurisdictions may inspect all Commission books and records.

B. The annual budget adopted by the Commission shall be transmitted to the Jurisdictions by April 1. Each Jurisdiction shall review the Commission adopted budget prior to June 1 of each year. Upon approval by all Jurisdictions, the Commission-adopted budget shall become effective. If one or more Jurisdictions does not approve, the budget shall be returned to the Commission for modification and resubmitted to the Jurisdictions for approval. If all Jurisdictions do not approve a Commission budget by July 1, the previous fiscal year budget, less 10 percent, shall continue in effect until all Jurisdictions approve a Commission budget.

The Commission shall have the authority, subject to its approved annual budget, to expend funds for any lawful purpose up to the total amount of the approved budget. The Commission must seek approval by the Jurisdictions of budget amendments over the total amount of the approved budget. All Jurisdictions must approve such budget amendments for them to become effective. No Jurisdiction may amend, reduce or increase the approved Commission budget.

C. The cost allocation of each Jurisdiction in support of the Commission's approved budget shall be determined by the Commission during the annual budget process. The annual approved budget shall establish the specific cost allocation of each Jurisdiction and a schedule for all payments.

D. 1. The Commission is authorized to receive and collect cable franchise fees for all the Jurisdictions except Portland. The Commission shall distribute such franchise fees according to the terms of the franchise agreements with the Grantees, and the Commission budgets approved by the Jurisdictions. However, the Commission shall allocate, on an annual basis, sixty percent (60%) of cable franchise fees received from the cities of Fairview, Gresham, Troutdale, and Wood Village, and Multnomah County, to Multnomah Community Television for the provision of PEG access services within those Jurisdictions as the designated PEG provider. Fees collected in excess of budgeted amounts shall be returned to the Jurisdictions from which such fees are attributable.

2. The Commission shall not collect the City of Portland cable franchise fees. The City of Portland agrees to transfer quarterly its share of the cost allocation in accordance with the approved Commission budget.

3. All other funds arising out of cable franchise agreements shall be collected by the Commission. The Commission shall allocate such funds in accordance with the franchise agreements and the Commission budgets approved by the Jurisdictions.

E. 1. The Commission shall serve as the Grantmaking Board for decisions on distributing PEG capital funds as grants, as provided in the cable franchise agreements administered by the Commission under this Agreement. The Commission shall establish procedures and timelines for decisions on distributing such grant funds.

2. The Commission shall establish the purposes for PEG capital grants, and evaluation criteria for grant applications, compatible with the terms and conditions of the

cable franchise agreements. The Commission shall review such purposes and evaluation criteria at least biennially. Commission determinations of such purposes and evaluation criteria under this Section 9.E.2 shall be subject to review by the Jurisdictions under Section 4 of this Agreement.

3. The Commission shall distribute grants of PEG capital funds based upon such purposes and evaluation criteria as have been developed under Section 9.E.2.

4. The total amount of PEG capital funds, including the total amount of grant funds to be distributed by the Commission under this Section 9.E., shall be included in the Commission's annual budget as transmitted to the Jurisdictions under Section 9.B.

Section 10. Effective Date. This Agreement shall become effective upon its adoption by all Jurisdictions. Any Jurisdiction entering into this shall adopt an authorizing ordinance and shall forward a certified copy to the City of Portland. Within 30 days of the effective date of this Agreement, the City of Portland shall forward copies of the authorizing ordinances to the Secretary of State.

Section 11. Duration and Termination.

A. Duration. The duration of this Agreement is perpetual and the Commission shall continue from year to year, subject to subsection 11.B. The Commission shall forward this Agreement to the Jurisdictions every three years for their review.

B. Termination. In order for any Jurisdiction to withdraw from this Agreement and to prevent obligations for its financial contribution to the Commission for the ensuing year, a Jurisdiction may only withdraw from the Commission by filing a written notice of withdrawal with the Commission by November 1 of any year, effective at the end of that fiscal year. Membership shall continue until the effective date of the withdrawal. However, the withdrawing Jurisdiction shall not take action on the Commission's annual budget. Prior to the effective date, the member Jurisdiction may rescind its withdrawal notice at any time.

Section 12. Assets. If a Jurisdiction withdraws before dissolution of the Commission, the Jurisdiction shall have no claim against the assets of the Commission. In the event of dissolution, all remaining assets of the Commission, after payment of obligations, shall be distributed among the then existing Jurisdictions in proportion to the most recent budget cost allocation percentage of the respective Jurisdictions. Jurisdictions may agree to buy out each others portion of assets.

Section 13. Dissolution. The Jurisdictions may dissolve the Commission and terminate this Agreement at any time by mutual agreement of all Jurisdictions. The Commission shall continue to exist after the dissolution for such period, no longer than three months, as is necessary to wind up its affairs but for no other purposes.

Section 14. General Terms.

A. Severability. The terms of this Agreement are severable and a determination by any Court or agency having jurisdiction over the subject matter of this Agreement that results in the invalidity of any part, shall not affect the remainder of this Agreement.

B. Interpretation. The terms and provisions of this Agreement shall be liberally construed in accordance with its general purposes.

C. Increasing Member Units of Government. The Commission may develop a method for allowing other units of local government to enter into this Agreement, subject to the full authority provision of subsection 4.B. A fee or cost for such entrance may be imposed.

D. Amendments. The terms of this Agreement shall not be amended without the written authorization of the governing bodies of all Jurisdictions.

E. 1. General Indemnification. Each Jurisdiction shall be responsible for the negligent acts or omissions of the Jurisdiction, or its officers, agents or employees, in carrying out the terms of this Agreement, subject to the limitations and conditions of the Oregon Tort Claims Act, ORS 30.260, et seq., and the Oregon Constitution, Article XI, Section 9.

2. By entering into this Agreement, the Jurisdictions are creating a public body under ORS Chapter 190 which is separately responsible for providing coverage for its officers, agents and employees, subject to the limitations and conditions of the Oregon Tort Claims Act, ORS 30.260, et seq.

APPROVED AND EXECUTED by the appropriate officer(s) who are duly authorized to execute this Agreement on behalf of the governing body of each Jurisdiction.

**City of Fairview**

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Recorder

**City of Gresham**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Manager



**Multnomah County**

REVIEWED BY:

\_\_\_\_\_  
County Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
County Counsel

**City of Portland**

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Commissioner

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Attorney

**City of Troutdale**

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Recorder

**City of Wood Village**

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Recorder