

An Ordinance Reauthorizing the County's Public, Educational and Governmental Access Fee on State Video Franchises



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Reauthorize the Public, Educational and Governmental (PEG) Fee



Asking you to reauthorize the Public, Educational and Governmental (PEG) Fee on State Video Franchises Operating within the County of Santa Barbara.

- Collect PEG access fees from state-franchised, video service providers operating in the County
 - Cox and Comcast
- 1% of each video service providers' gross revenues.



Background

- Digital Infrastructure and Video Competition Act of 2006 (DIVCA).
- DIVCA allows local governments to establish and collect Public, Educational and Governmental (PEG) access fees.
- PEG revenue is restricted and can only be used for capital expenditures (equipment, studios, etc.) related to the County's government channel.
- Cannot exceed 1% of cable providers' gross video revenues.



Background

- April, 2011 amendment to the County's cable television Franchise and License ordinances aligned the County's current cable franchise codes with the DIVCA.
- State video franchises were given 10-year terms that will expire in 2017 for Cox Communications and, and 2021 for Comcast.
- DIVCA states that "the ordinance shall expire, and may be reauthorized, upon the expiration of the state franchise.



Fiscal Impact

- Receiving approximately \$80,000 per year from Comcast.
- Expect to receive \$180,000 annually from Cox.
- No change in franchise fee collections from either company.

Staff Recommendation



- Approve the introduction (first reading) of an Ordinance Reauthorizing the Public, Educational and Governmental Access (PEG) Fee on State Video Franchises Operating within the Unincorporated Area of the County of Santa Barbara.
- Read the title of the Ordinance and waive full reading of the Ordinance; and
- Continue the hearing to the Administrative Agenda of April 11, 2017 to consider recommendations, as follows:

Staff Recommendation



- Consider and approve the adoption (second reading) of an Ordinance Reauthorizing the Public, Educational and Governmental Access (PEG) Fee on State Video Franchises Operating within the Unincorporated Area of the County of Santa Barbara; and
- Determine that the proposed action is not a “project” under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) guidelines, pursuant to Section 15378 (b) (5).