

## County of Los Angeles CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

713 KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION • LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012 (213) 974-1101 http://cao.co.la.ca.us

Board of Supervisors GLORIA MOLINA First District

YVONNE BRATHWAITE BURKE Second District

ZEV YAROSLAVSKY

DON KNABE Fourth District

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH Fifth District

October 20, 2003

To:

Supervisor Yvonne Brathwaite Burke, Chair

Supervisor Gloria Molina Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky Supervisor Don Knabe

Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From:

David E. Janssen

Chief Administrative Officer

**UPDATE ON COUNTY CHANNEL** 

On July 15, 2003, your Board approved a motion asking the Chief Administrative Office and the Department of Consumer Affairs to work with the 88 cities, interested cable television operators, and other media and communications interests to further the County's aim of developing a cable channel to provide countywide programming of County information. This memorandum is in response to the request for a report in 90 days on the progress of the effort.

Letters have been sent to each of the cities advising them of the County's interest in establishing a County Channel, and asking them to consider dedicating a channel to carry the programming. Follow-up contact has been made with several of the cities, including the City of Los Angeles, which has indicated it will include the County Channel in its upcoming negotiations with cable franchisers.

The first major step in developing a County Channel is linking the cable systems so that the programming could cover the entire County area. We have had three meetings with the cable companies, and they have agreed to have their engineers work with us to design such a system. The engineers met Friday, October 17, to share their ideas. Having the cooperation of the cable companies is critical to our project, and we are encouraged by their willingness to participate in the design work.

Each Supervisor October 20, 2003 Page 2

Once a system is designed to carry the programming, we will report back to your Board with the cost information and to obtain further direction.

The next major steps would be to develop programming, including determining whether we wish to approach other regional governmental entities about their desirability to be a partner in this project, and intensifying our efforts in getting the cities to dedicate a channel to carry our programming.

Attached is a detailed report on our efforts in the past 90 days. It was prepared by consultant Michael Friedman, who was hired to help facilitate this project.

Please contact me if you have any questions about the County Channel or your staff may contact Judy Hammond of my office at 974-1363.

DEJ:GK JH:mp

#### Attachment

c: Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors Consumer Affairs County Counsel

#### TELECOMMUNICATIONS MANAGEMENT CORP.

5757 Wilshire Blvd. • Suite 635 • Los Angeles, CA 90036 • (323) 931-2600 • Fax (323) 931-7355

September 26, 2003

Mr. David E. Janssen Chief Administrative Officer County of Los Angeles 713 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration 500 West Temple Street Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Mr. Janssen:

Enclosed is a copy of the Telecommunications Management Corp. (TMC) progress report detailing actions taken in response the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors motion of July 15, 2003 regarding the "County Channel."

Please feel free to contact me with any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Friedman Vice President

#### **Enclosures**

C: Pastor Herrera, Jr. Fern Taylor Lari Sheehan Judy Hammond Jaclyn Tilley Hill

#### TELECOMMUNICATIONS MANAGEMENT CORP.

5757 Wilshire Blvd. • Suite 635 • Los Angeles, CA 90036 • (323) 931-2600 • Fax (323) 931-7355

#### **PROGRESS REPORT**

## COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES JULY 15, 2003 BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ACTION

#### **Background**

At its meeting on July 15, 2003, the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors (the Board) adopted a motion requiring a number of actions to be taken associated with the development of a Los Angeles County Governmental Channel (the County Channel). A copy of the Board action is enclosed.

The Guiding Coalition, as part of the County's Strategic Planning process, had formed a committee tasked with examining various methods to improve communication within the County and between the County and its residents. This committee is called the Communications Support Group (CSG). One of CSG's goals is to examine issues related to the feasibility of a cable television channel that would carry County governmental programming.

As a result of the motion brought by the Board on July 25, 2003, the County has retained the services of Telecommunications Management Corp. (TMC) to assist in the gathering of information that will allow the County to determine the feasibility a County Channel. The following information is provided to address the directives contained in the Board motion.

#### **Directives and Actions Taken**

This report details the staff actions taken as a result of the Board motion. As will be noted, all of the Board directives have been satisfied. Additional steps to investigate the development of the County Channel also are being pursued.

The specific actions taken in response to each Board directive are provided below.

The Board took the following actions:

1. Instructed the Executive Officer of the Board to send five-signature letters to the Mayor of the City of Los Angeles, the City Council President, the Chairman of the City Council's Information Technology and General Services Committee, and the President of the Board of Information Technology Commissioners requesting that development of a dedicated channel for County-related programming and public service information be included in its cable television needs assessment survey and its upcoming cable television franchise renewal process; and

Five-signature letters dated July 23, 2003 were sent to:

James K. Hahn, Mayor, City of Los Angeles
Alex Padilla, President, Los Angeles City Council
Bernard Parks, Chair, Los Angeles City Council Committee on
Information Technology and General Services
Henry D. Gradstein, President, Los Angeles City Board of
Information Technology Commissioners.

A copy of each letter is enclosed with this report.

Los Angeles City Information Technology Agency (ITA) has shared a copy of the September 5, 2003 cable television needs assessment report draft. In the "Summary of Public, Educational and Governmental Needs Assessment Finding" is "One (1) full-time Citywide County of Los Angeles channel" (page 107 of the report). Because of the length of the City report, a copy is not enclosed, but will be provided upon request. The report has been provided in draft form and may be modified prior to being finalized.

It is noted that the Board action contemplates the possible designation of a County Channel during the Los Angeles City franchise renewal process currently in the beginning stages. Since this process may not be completed for several years, alternatives are being pursued that may accelerate the availability of a channel for County use that would permit County programming to be distributed to residents in the City of Los Angeles.

The Board also:

- 2. Instructed the Chief Administrative Officer and the Director of Consumer Affairs to:
- a. Request all 88 cities in Los Angeles County to partner with the County in the development of a Los Angeles County governmental channel;

Letters dated September 15, 2003 were sent to the City Managers of the 88 incorporated cities within the County. A sample letter and a copy of the mailing list are enclosed with this report.

b. Work with the cities, beginning with the City of Los Angeles, and with interested cable television operators and other media and communications interests in furtherance of this aim;

In discussions with Los Angeles City ITA staff, the City's desire to work with the County on this project has been expressed. A meeting has been scheduled for October 15, 2003 with ITA representatives, including the Assistant General Manager responsible for cable issues, to discuss a possible partnership.

On July 18, 2003, representatives of the Chief Administrative Office (CAO), Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) and TMC met with the Cable TV Manager for the City of Santa Monica to discuss a possible partnership between Santa Monica and the County. The Santa Monica representative indicated the possibility of the County utilizing an available City channel on the Adelphia cable system in the City.

On August 15, 2003 the CAO, DCA and TMC met with representatives of all of the major cable service providers within the County. The cable operators in attendance were Adelphia, Altrio, Charter, Comcast, Cox and Time Warner. The purpose of this meeting was to review the July 15<sup>th</sup> Board motion and discuss opportunities for the County and the cable operators to work together in the development of a County Channel.

A follow-up meeting with technical staff of these providers was held on September 18, 2003. Also in attendance at this meeting were engineers from the City of Los Angeles ITA. The purpose of this meeting was to discuss technical and engineering concerns associated with delivery and distribution any County Channel signal. The County and technical staff are scheduled to reconvene in mid-October.

TMC has received responses to the CAO's September 15<sup>th</sup> letter from representatives of Bellflower, Cerritos, Glendale and West Hollywood. TMC also has initiated contact with the Cities of Calabasas, Commerce, Culver City, La Puente, Lakewood, Santa Clarita, Santa Monica, Torrance and West Covina with regard to the County Channel. Additionally, TMC has approached the Board of Directors of the States of California and Nevada chapter of the National Association of Telecommunications Officers and Advisors (SCAN NATOA) and requested that the Chapter consider providing assistance with regard to certain aspects of the County Channel. [Disclosure: TMC Vice President, Michael J. Friedman serves as a member of the SCAN NATOA Board.]

#### c. Report back to the Board within 90 days with progress made.

This report has been prepared to provide the Board, through the CAO, the progress made in response to the Board motion. CSG and TMC are continuing to gather information relating to the County Channel, and will provide regular progress updates to the CAO and the Board.

#### **Enclosures:**

July 15, 2003 Board Action July 23, 2003 Five-Signature Letters (four letters) September 15, 2003 Letter to 88 Cities and Mailing List

## BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ACTION JULY 15, 2003



### MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Violet Varona-Lukens, Executive Officer Clerk of the Board of Supervisors 383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration Los Angeles, California 90012

Chief Administrative Officer Director of Consumer Affairs

At its meeting held July 15, 2003, the Board took the following action:

Supervisor Yaroslavsky made the following revised statement:

"During the past 30 years, cable television has become an increasingly significant part of the overall media mix available to consumers. As over-the-air commercial TV channels curtail their own news and public affairs commitment, dedicated cable channels for public access, educational and governmental (PEG) programs have stepped into the breach and are rapidly becoming a vitally important source of information about local government and civic life.

"Through an arrangement with KLCS, a channel licensed to the Los Angeles Unified School District, the County of Los Angeles currently buys time to broadcast the weekly Board of Supervisors meetings. This arrangement is inadequate, however, because we are unable to broadcast the meetings live; meetings of the Board are not televised until 10:00 pm the day after they take place. This time delay is inconvenient for viewers, limits our audience and reduces the public's ability to obtain information and otherwise participate in the County decision making process.

"In addition, there are many County services and programs available to constituents that are worthy of publicizing via cable television, ranging from social service eligibility and tax and permit assistance to recreational opportunities and cultural activities.

(Continued on Page 2)

#### 1 (Continued)

"The County of Los Angeles would benefit greatly from uniform Countywide dedicated channels for public access, educational and governmental programming. As a local franchising authority the County is entitled to require that cable operators make channels available for these purposes when granting or renewing their franchise operating agreements. However, we are hampered by the fact that we only have franchising authority over the various disconnected pockets of unincorporated areas in which only about 10% of County constituents reside. While the County does require our own cable franchisees to set aside PEG channels serving these areas, we have no control over franchises in incorporated cities where the other 90% of County residents live.

"The City of Los Angeles comprises about 38% of County residents and is about to undertake a cable television franchise renewal process. As a dedicated County channel would be beneficial to all County residents, including those who live within the City of Los Angeles, we should work with City officials to secure the use of cable channels citywide for County use. The City is now undertaking a 'needs assessment' survey to ascertain what programming services city officials and local communities want to be incorporated in the franchise renewals. The County should respond to the needs assessment by asking the City to take all steps necessary to dedicate a channel for County use.

"Many of the other 87 cities in the County may be interested in providing unused channel capacity to the County or in negotiating for the provision of such channels through upcoming franchise negotiations. Cable operators may be interested in working with the County on development of a County channel as a way of strengthening their appeal to local audiences. In addition, other media and communications organizations may have an interest in partnering with the County in this venture."

(Continued on Page 3)

#### 1 (Continued)

Therefore, on motion of Supervisor Yaroslavsky, seconded by Supervisor Molina, unanimously carried, the Board took the following actions:

- 1. Instructed the Executive Officer of the Board to send five-signature letters to the Mayor of the City of Los Angeles, the City Council President, the Chairman of the City Council's Information Technology and General Services Committee, and the President of the Board of Information Technology Commissioners requesting that development of a dedicated channel for County-related programming and public service information be included in its cable television needs assessment survey and its upcoming cable television franchise renewal process; and
- 2. Instructed the Chief Administrative Officer and the Director of Consumer Affairs to:
  - Request all 88 cities in Los Angeles County to partner with the County in the development of a Los Angeles County governmental channel;
  - b. Work with the cities, beginning with the City of Los Angeles, and with interested cable television operators and other media and communications interests in furtherance of this aim; and
  - c. Report back to the Board within 90 days with progress made.

#### 8071503-1

Copies distributed: Each Supervisor County Counsel

#### Letters sent to:

Mayor, City of Los Angeles
President, Los Angeles City Council
Chair, Los Angeles City Council Committee on
Information Technology and General Services
President, City of Los Angeles, Board of Information
Technology Commissioners

# BOARD OF SUPERVISORS FIVE-SIGNATURE LETTERS JULY 23, 2003



## BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

383 KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION / LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012

GLORIA MOLINA YVONNE BRATHWAITE BURKE ZEV YAROSLAVSKY DON KNABE MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

VIOLET VARONA-LUKENS, EXECUTIVE OFFICER (213) 974-1411

July 23, 2003

The Honorable James K. Hahn Mayor City of Los Angeles 200 North Spring Street Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Mayor Hahn:

We are examining the feasibility of establishing a government programming channel that would carry information on County services, facilities and events to residents throughout the County.

Approximately 10 percent of the County's residents live in unincorporated County areas where our regulatory authority extends. Therefore, in order for this programming to reach the majority of the County's residents, the assistance of the 88 cities is necessary. Since the City of Los Angeles accounts for 38 percent of the County's population, your assistance is of utmost importance.

We feel the residents of your city would benefit from having access to a County channel as many of our activities directly affect their lives. A cable channel would allow us to run programs about the many services that we provide, including health care, social services, public protection, and cultural activities. Additionally, we would be able to broadcast our Board meetings live, giving the public immediate access to the decision making process and information about issues that may be of interest to them.

The Honorable James K. Hahn July 23, 2003 Page 2

We understand that the City of Los Angeles is in the process of assessing the programming needs of its residents as part of its preparation for the renewal of its cable television franchises. We are requesting that the City of Los Angeles as part of its cable television needs assessment and upcoming cable television franchise renewal process, take all necessary steps to dedicate a government programming channel for County related programming and public service information.

We respectfully urge your serious consideration of this request.

Very truly yours,

YVONNE BRATHWAITE BURKE

CHAIR

SUPERVISOR, 2ND DISTRICT

GI/ORIA MOLINA

SUPERVISOR, 1ST DISTRICT

DON KNABE

SUPERVISOR, 4TH DISTRICT

ZEV YABOSLÁVSKY SUMERVISOR, 3RD D

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH SUPERVISOR, 5TH DISTRICT

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GLORIA MOLINA



## BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES 383 KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION / LOS ANGELES. CALIFORNIA 90012

YVONNE BRATHWAITE BURKE ZEV YAROSLAVSKY DON KNABE MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

VIOLET VARONA-LUKENS, EXECUTIVE OFFICER (213) 974-1411

July 23, 2003

The Honorable Alex Padilla, President Los Angeles City Council 200 North Spring Street, Room 465 Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Councilmember Padilla:

We are examining the feasibility of establishing a government programming channel that would carry information on County services, facilities and events to residents throughout the County.

Approximately 10 percent of the County's residents live in unincorporated County areas where our regulatory authority extends. Therefore, in order for this programming to reach the majority of the County's residents, the assistance of the 88 cities is necessary. Since the City of Los Angeles accounts for 38 percent of the County's population, your assistance is of utmost importance.

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The Honorable Alex Padilla July 23, 2003 Page 2

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We respectfully urge your serious consideration of this request.

Very truly yours,

**VONNE BRATHWAITE BURKE** 

SUPERVISOR, 2ND DISTRICT

ORIA MOLINA

SUPERVISOR, 1ST DISTRICT

SUPERVISOR, BRO DISTRICT

DON KNABE

SUPERVISOR, 4TH DISTRICT

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SUPERVISOR, 5TH DISTRICT



## BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

383 KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION / LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012

GLORIA MOLINA YVONNE BRATHWAITE BURKE ZEV YAROSLAVSKY DON KNABE MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

VIOLET VARONA-LUKENS, EXECUTIVE OFFICER (213) 974-1411

July 23, 2003

The Honorable Bernard Parks, Chair Los Angeles City Council Committee on Information Technology and General Services 200 North Spring Street, Room 460 Los Angeles, CA 90012

#### Dear Councilmember Parks:

We are examining the feasibility of establishing a government programming channel that would carry information on County services, facilities and events to residents throughout the County.

Approximately 10 percent of the County's residents live in unincorporated County areas where our regulatory authority extends. Therefore, in order for this programming to reach the majority of the County's residents, the assistance of the 88 cities is necessary. Since the City of Los Angeles accounts for 38 percent of the County's population, your assistance is of utmost importance.

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The Honorable Bernard Parks July 23, 2003 Page 2

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We respectfully urge your serious consideration of this request.

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YVONNE BRATHWAITE BURKE

CHAIR

SUPERVISOR, 2ND DISTRICT

SLORIA MOLINA

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DON KNABE

SUPERVISOR, 4TH DISTRICT

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ZEV YAROSIAVSKY

SUPERVISOR, 3RD DIST

MICH EL D. ANTONOVICH SUPERVISOR, 5TH DISTRICT



## BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

383 KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION / LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012

GLORIA MOLINA YVONNE BRATHWAITE BURKE ZEV YAROSLAVSKY DON KNABE MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

VIOLET VARONA-LUKENS, EXECUTIVE OFFICER (213) 974-1411

July 23, 2003

Mr. Henry D. Gradstein, President Board of Information Technology Commissioners City of Los Angeles 120 South San Pedro Street, Suite 600 Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Mr. Gradstein:

We are examining the feasibility of establishing a government programming channel that would carry information on County services, facilities and events to residents throughout the County.

Approximately 10 percent of the County's residents live in unincorporated County areas where our regulatory authority extends. Therefore, in order for this programming to reach the majority of the County's residents, the assistance of the 88 cities is necessary. Since the City of Los Angeles accounts for 38 percent of the County's population, your assistance is of utmost importance.

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Mr. Henry D. Gradstein July 23, 2003 Page 2

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YVONNE BRATHWAITE BURKE

CHAIR

SUPERVISOR, 2ND DISTRICT

GIORIA MOLINA

SUPERVISOR, 1ST DISTRICT

DON KNABE

SUPERVISOR, 4TH DISTRICT

ZEV YAROSLAVSKY

SUPPRYISOR, BRD DISTRICT

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

SUPERVISOR, 5TH DISTRICT

8071503-1

# CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER LETTER TO 88 CITY MANAGERS SEPTEMBER 15, 2003

Dave Adams, City Manager City of Agoura Hills 30001 Ladyface Court Agoura Hills, CA 91301

Maria Dadian, City Manager City of Artesia 18747 Clarkdale Avenue Artesia, CA 90701

Dayle Keller, Chief Executive Officer City of Baldwin Park 14403 East Pacific Avenue Baldwin Park, CA 91706

John Arnales, City Manager City of Bell Gardens 7100 South Garfield Avenue Bell Gardens, CA 90201

Mary Alvord, City Manager City of Burbank 275 East Olive Avenue Burbank, CA 91502

Arthur Gallucci, City Manager City of Cerritos 18125 South Bloomfield Avenue Cerritos, CA 90701

Michael Heriot, Interim City Manager City of Compton 205 South Willowbrook Avenue Compton, CA 90220

Michael Thompson Chief Administrative Officer City of Culver City 9770 Culver Boulevard P.O. Box 507 Culver City, CA 90232-0507

Jesse H. Duff, City Manager City of Duarte 1600 Huntington Drive Duarte, CA 91010

Mitchell Lansdell, City Manager City of Gardena 1700 West 162nd Street Gardena, CA 90247 Julio J. Fuentes, City Manager City of Alhambra 111 South First Street Alhambra, CA 91801

Robert F. Clark, City Manager City of Avalon - Catalina Island 209 Metropole Avenue P.O. Box 707 Avalon, CA 90704

Robert A. Rizzo, Chief Administrative Officer City of Bell 6330 Pine Avenue Bell, CA 90201-1291

Mark Scott, City Manager City of Beverly Hills 455 North Rexford Drive Beverly Hills, CA 90210

Donald Duckworth, City Manager City of Calabasas 26135 Mureau Road, Suite 200 Calabasas, CA 91302-3172

Glenn Southard, City Manager City of Claremont 207 Harvard Avenue P.O. Box 880 Claremont, CA 91711

Paul Philips, City Manager City of Covina 125 East College Stret Covina, CA 91723

Linda C. Lowry, City Manager City of Diamond Bar 21825 East Copley Drive Diamond Bar, CA 91765-4178

Juan Mireles, City Manager City of El Monte 11333 Valley Boulevard El Monte, CA 91731

James Starbird, City Manager City of Glendale 613 East Broadway, Room 200 Glendale, CA 91206-4393 William Kelly, City Manager City of Arcadia 240 West Huntington Drive Arcadia, CA 91007

Rick Cole, City Manager City of Azusa 213 East Foothill Boulevard Azusa, CA 91702

Michael J. Egan, City Administrator City of Bellflower 16600 Civic Center Drive Bellflower, CA 90706

C. Edward Dilkes, City Manager City of Bradbury 600 Winston Avenue Bradbury, CA 91010

Jerome (Jerry) G. Groomes City Manager City of Carson 701 East Carson Carson, CA 90745

Tom Sykes, City Administrator City of Commerce 2535 Commerce Way Commerce, CA 90040

George Perez, City Manager City of Cudahy 5220 Santa Ana Street P.O. Box 1007 Cudahy, CA 90201

Gerald M. Caton, City Manager City of Downey 11111 Brookshire Avenue Downey, CA 90241

Mary Strenn, City Manager City of El Segundo 350 Main Street El Segundo, CA 90245

Eric Ziegler, City Manager City of Glendora 116 East Foothill Boulevard Glendora, CA 91741 Raul Romero, Interim City Administrator City of Hawaiian Gardens 21815 Pioneer Boulevard Hawaiian Gardens, CA 90716

Cherie L. Paglia, City Manager City of Hidden Hills 6165 Spring Valley Road Hidden Hills, CA 91302

Mark Weinberg, City Administrator City of Inglewood One Manchester Boulevard Inglewood, CA 90306

John Hendrickson City Manager/City Clerk City of La Habra Heights 1245 North Hacienda Boulevard La Habra Heights, CA 90631

Martin R. Lomeli, City Manager City of La Verne 3660 D Street La Verne, CA 91750

Vangie Schock, City Manager City of Lawndale 14717 Burin Avenue Lawndale, CA 90260

William T. Fujioka, City Admin. Officer City of Los Angeles City Hall 200 North Spring Street Los Angeles, CA 90012

Geoff Dolan, City Manager City of Manhattan Beach 1400 Highland Avenue Manhattan Beach, CA 90266-4728

Richard Torres, City Administrator City of Montebello 1600 West Beverly Boulevard Montebello, CA 90640

Robert Toone, Jr., City Manager City of Palmdale 38300 North Sierra Highway Palmdale, CA 93550 Charles Herbertson, Interim City Manager City of Hawthome 4455 West 126th Street Hawthorne, CA 90250

Gregory D. Korduner, City Manager City of Huntington Park 6550 Miles Avenue, Room 148 Huntington Park, CA 90255

Steve Blancarte, City Manager/City Clerk City of Irwindale 5050 North Irwindale Avenue Irwindale, CA 91706

Andrea M. Travis, City Manager City of La Mirada 13700 La Mirada Boulevard La Mirada, CA 90638

Howard L. Chambers, City Manager City of Lakewood 5050 North Clark Avenue Lakewood, CA 90712

Tom A. Odom, City Administrator City of Lomita 24300 Narbonne Avenue P.O. Box 339 Lomita, CA 90717

Lorri Hempe, City Manager City of Lynwood 11330 Bullis Road Lynwood, CA 90262

Edward Ahrens, Chief Admin. Officer City of Maywood 4319 East Slauson Avenue Maywood, CA 90270

Chris Jeffers, City Manager City of Monterey Park 320 West Newmark Avenue Monterey Park, CA 91754

James Hendrickson, City Manager City of Palos Verdes Estates 340 Palos Verdes Drive West Palos Verdes Estates, CA 90274 Stephen R. Burrell, City Manager City of Hermosa Beach 1315 Valley Drive Hermonsa Beach, CA 90254

Philip L. Iriarte, City Manager City of Industry 15651 East Stafford Street P.O. Box 3366 Industry, CA 91744

Mark R. Alexander, City Manager City of La Canada Flintridge 1327 Foothill Boulevard La Canada Flintridge, CA 91011

Hal Ledford, Interim City Manager City of La Puente 15900 East Main Street La Puente, CA 91744

James C. Gilley, City Manager City of Lancaster 44933 North Fern Avenue Lancaster, CA 93534

Gerald Miller, City Manager City of Long Beach 333 West Ocean Boulevard, 14th Floor Long Beach, CA 90802

Katie Lichtig, City Manager City of Malibu 23815 Stuart Ranch Road Malibu, CA 90265-4861

Donald R. Hopper, City Manager City of Monrovia 415 South Ivy Avenue Monrovia, CA 91016

Ernie Garcia, City Manager City of Norwalk 12700 Norwalk Boulevard P.O. Box 1030 Norwalk, CA 90651-1030

Patrick West, City Manager City of Paramount 16400 Colorado Avenue Paramount, CA 90723 Cynthia Kurtz, City Manager City of Pasadena 100 North Garfied Avenue Pasadena, CA 91109-7215

Les Evans, City Manager City of Rancho Palos Verdes 30940 Hawthorne Boulevard Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90275

Douglas R. Prichard City Manager/City Clerk City of Rolling Hills Estates 4045 Palos Verdes Drive North Rolling Hills Estates, CA 90274

Jose Pulido, City Administrator City of San Fernando 117 Macneil Street San Fernando, CA 91340

Ken Pulskamp, City Manager City of Santa Clarita 23920 West Valencia Boulevard, #300 Santa Clarita, CA 91355

Tamara Gates, City Manager City of Sierra Madre 232 West Sierra Madre Boulevard Sierra Madre, CA 91024

Fred Maley, Interim City Manager City of South Gate 8650 California Avenue South Gate,CA 90280

LeRoy J. Jackson, City Manager City of Torrance 3031 Torrance Boulevard Torrance, CA 90503

Andrew G. Pasmant, City Manager City of West Covina 1444 West Garvey Avenue West Covina,, CA 91790

Steve Helvey, City Manager City of Whittier 13230 East Penn Street Whittier, CA 90602 Dennis Courtemarche, City Manager City of Pico Rivera 6615 South Passons Boulevard P.O. Box 1016 Pico Rivera, CA 90660

Louis N. Garcia, City Manager City of Redondo Beach 415 Diamond Street P.O. Box 270 Redondo Beach, CA 90277

Billie Crowe, City Manager City of Rosemead 8838 East Valley Boulevard P.O. Box 399 Rosemead, CA 91770

P. Michael Paules, City Manager City of San Gabriel 425 South Mission Drive San Gabriel, CA 91776

Fred Latham, City Manager City of Santa Fe Springs 11710 Telegraph Road P.O. Box 2120 Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670

Ken Farfsing, City Manager City of Signal Hill 2175 Cherry Avenue Signal Hill, CA 90806

Sean Joyce, City Manager City of South Pasadena 1414 Mission Street, Room 203 South Pasadena, CA 91030

Bruce V. Malkenhorst, City Administrator/City Clerk City of Vernon 4305 Santa Fe Avenue Vernon, CA 90058

Paul Arevalo, City Manager City of West Hollywood 8300 Santa Monica Boulevard West Hollywood,, CA 90069 Douglas Dunlap, City Manager City of Pomona 505 South Garey Avenue Pomona, CA 91766

Craig Nealis, City Manager/City Clerk City of Rolling Hills No. 2 Portuguese Bend Road Rolling Hills, CA 90274

Blaine Michaelis, City Manager City of San Dimas 245 East Bonita Avenue San Dimas, CA 91773

Robert Wishner, City Manager City of San Marino 2200 Huntington Drive San Marino, CA 91108

Susan McCarthy, City Manager City of Santa Monica 1685 Main Street Santa Monica, CA 90401

Gary Chicots, City Manager City of South El Monte 1415 North Santa Anita Avenue South El Monte, CA 91733

Martin Cole, City Manager City of Temple City 9701 Las Tunas Drive Temple City, CA 91780

Jeffrey C. Parker, City Manager City of Walnut 21201 La Puente Road Walnut, CA 91789-2018

Raymond B. Taylor, City Manager/City Clerk City of Westlake Village 31200 Oak Crest Drive Westlake Village,, CA 91361



## County of Los Angeles CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

713 KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION • LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012
(213) 974-1101
http://cao.co.la.ca.us

September 15, 2003

Board of Supervisors GLORIA MOLINA First District

YVONNE BRATHWAITE BURKE Second District

ZEV YAROSLAVSKY Third District

DON KNABE Fourth District

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH Fifth District

Dave Adams, City Manager City of Agoura Hills 30001 Ladyface Court Agoura Hills,, CA 91301

Dear Mr. Adams:

#### **COUNTY CHANNEL**

At its meeting of July 15, 2003, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors unanimously agreed to request all 88 cities within the County to consider partnering with the County in the development of a Los Angeles County governmental channel to be carried on cable systems throughout the County. A copy of the Board Action is enclosed.

The Board's goal is to reach as many residents of the County as possible. This requires partnering with the cities because the County's cable franchise regulatory authority extends only to the unincorporated areas which only comprise 10 percent of the County population.

As you are aware, most of the County's services directly affect all the County's residents, whether they live within one of the 88 cities or in an unincorporated County community. Therefore, including a "County Channel" on the cable system serving your city would enable your residents to receive ongoing, timely information about the many County services of interest to them, such as voter registration, elections, certificates and licenses (marriage, birth, and death), County hospitals and health clinics, cultural activities including performance schedules for the Disney Concert Hall, Music Center, Hollywood Bowl, and Ford Theater. Additionally, meetings of the Board Supervisors could be broadcast live, giving city residents information about issues being debated and decided by the Board.

Dave Adams September 15, 2003 Page 2

The County has retained the services of Telecommunications Management Corporation (TMC) to assist in examining the feasibility, technical, and practical details associated with establishing a County Channel that broadcasts countywide. Mr. Michael Friedman, Vice President of TMC, will be contacting a number of cities during the course of his feasibility study. Should you want to reach Mr. Friedman immediately, his phone number and e-mail address are (323) 931-2600 and friedman@telecom-mgmt.com.

We appreciate your consideration of this request and will value your input. If you have questions, feel free to contact Lari Sheehan of my staff at (213) 974-1174 or <a href="mailto:lsheehan@cao.co.la.ca.us">lsheehan@cao.co.la.ca.us</a>. Thank you.

Sincerely,

DAVID E. JANSSEN

Chief Administrative Office

**DEJ:LS:os** 

Enclosure

c: Michael J. Friedman, Telecommunications Management Corporation



1

### MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Violet Varona-Lukens, Executive Officer Clerk of the Board of Supervisors 383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration Los Angeles, California 90012

Chief Administrative Officer Director of Consumer Affairs

At its meeting held July 15, 2003, the Board took the following action:

Supervisor Yaroslavsky made the following revised statement:

"During the past 30 years, cable television has become an increasingly significant part of the overall media mix available to consumers. As over-the-air commercial TV channels curtail their own news and public affairs commitment, dedicated cable channels for public access, educational and governmental (PEG) programs have stepped into the breach and are rapidly becoming a vitally important source of information about local government and civic life.

"Through an arrangement with KLCS, a channel licensed to the Los Angeles Unified School District, the County of Los Angeles currently buys time to broadcast the weekly Board of Supervisors meetings. This arrangement is inadequate, however, because we are unable to broadcast the meetings live; meetings of the Board are not televised until 10:00 pm the day after they take place. This time delay is inconvenient for viewers, limits our audience and reduces the public's ability to obtain information and otherwise participate in the County decision making process.

"In addition, there are many County services and programs available to constituents that are worthy of publicizing via cable television, ranging from social service eligibility and tax and permit assistance to recreational opportunities and cultural activities.

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"The County of Los Angeles would benefit greatly from uniform Countywide dedicated channels for public access, educational and governmental programming. As a local franchising authority the County is entitled to require that cable operators make channels available for these purposes when granting or renewing their franchise operating agreements. However, we are hampered by the fact that we only have franchising authority over the various disconnected pockets of unincorporated areas in which only about 10% of County constituents reside. While the County does require our own cable franchisees to set aside PEG channels serving these areas, we have no control over franchises in incorporated cities where the other 90% of County residents live.

"The City of Los Angeles comprises about 38% of County residents and is about to undertake a cable television franchise renewal process. As a dedicated County channel would be beneficial to all County residents, including those who live within the City of Los Angeles, we should work with City officials to secure the use of cable channels citywide for County use. The City is now undertaking a 'needs assessment' survey to ascertain what programming services city officials and local communities want to be incorporated in the franchise renewals. The County should respond to the needs assessment by asking the City to take all steps necessary to dedicate a channel for County use.

"Many of the other 87 cities in the County may be interested in providing unused channel capacity to the County or in negotiating for the provision of such channels through upcoming franchise negotiations. Cable operators may be interested in working with the County on development of a County channel as a way of strengthening their appeal to local audiences. In addition, other media and communications organizations may have an interest in partnering with the County in this venture."

(Continued on Page 3)