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October 11, 2020

Tennessee Public Utility Commission ATTN: Docket Room (09-00137) 502 Deadrick Street 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Nashville, TN 37243

RE: PEG Channels to RETAIN in Cumberland County

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen:

On October 6, 2020, Cumberland County received notice from TPUC pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 7-59-309 that we have the right to retain any PEG channels given under Comcast's prior franchise agreement with Cumberland County. Therefore, this is notice that pursuant to our prior franchise agreement, Sections 12.1, 12.2 and 12.3, Cumberland County requests to retain the following PEG channels:

- 1) One (1) channel for public access programming,
- 2) One (1) channel for education access programming, and
- 3) One (1) channel for government access programming.

Since Comcast's franchise authority came from an agreement directly with the County, I am attaching said agreement to this letter. Also, please be aware that Cumberland County is taking the position that the attached agreement automatically renewed for five years pursuant to Sections 2.2 and 2.6 and therefore does not end until February 20, 2022. We have questioned Comcast why they have filed for a new franchise prior to the current one ending and they have not responded.

Sincerely,

Bean, Smith and Burnett

Philip D. Burnett

Enclosure

Cc: Mayor Allen Foster

### FRANCHISE AGREEMENT

This Franchise Agreement (hereinafter, the "Agreement" or "Franchise Agreement") is made between Cumberland County, Tennessee, and Comcast of the South, and Comcast of Southern Tennessee, LLC (collectively, the "Grantee").

Grantee currently provides cable television services in Cumberland County, Tennessee, pursuant to three (3) franchise Resolutions (dated April 21, 1986, October 19, 1997, dated March 31, 1998) and Cumberland County, Tennessee, and Grantee desire to consolidate and renew such franchises for an additional term as provided for herein.

Cumberland County, Tennessee, having determined that the financial, legal, and technical ability of the Grantee is reasonably sufficient to provide services, facilities, and equipment necessary to meet the future cable-related needs of the community, desires to enter into this Franchise Agreement with the Grantee for the construction and continued operation of a cable system on the terms and conditions set forth herein.

## SECTION 1 Definition of Terms

1.1 <u>Terms.</u> For the purpose of this Franchise Agreement, the following terms, phrases, words, and abbreviations shall have the meanings ascribed to them below. Unless otherwise defined herein, any term not defined herein shall have the meaning assigned to such term in the Cable Act.

"Cable Act" means Title VI of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended from time to time, 47 U.S.C. Sections 521 et seq.

"Cable Service" means: (A) the one-way transmission to Customers of (i) video programming, or (ii) other programming service, and (B) Customer interaction, if any, which is required for the selection or use of such video programming or other programming service.

"Cable System" means a facility, consisting of a set of closed transmission paths and associated signal generation, reception, and control equipment that is designed to provide Cable Service which includes video programming and which is provided to multiple Customers within a community, but such term does not include (A) a facility that serves only to retransmit the television signals of one or more television broadcast stations; (B) a facility that serves Customers without using any public right-of-way; (C) a facility of a common carrier which is subject, in whole or in part, to the provisions of Title II of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. Sections 201-226), except that such facility shall be considered a Cable System (other than for purposes of Section 621(c) of the Cable Act) to the extent such facility is used in the transmission of video programming directly to Customers, unless the extent of such use is solely to provide interactive on-demand service; (D) an open video system that complies with Section 653 of the Cable Act; or (E) any facilities of any electric utility used solely for operating its electric utility systems.

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"Control" means the ability to direct the policies and management of the Grantee.

"Customer" means a Person or user of the Cable System who lawfully receives Cable Service therefrom with the Grantee's expressed permission.

"FCC" means the Federal Communications Commission, or successor governmental entity thereto.

"Franchise" means the initial authorization, or renewal thereof, issued by the Franchising Authority, whether such authorization is designated as a franchise, permit, license, resolution, contract, certificate, ordinance or otherwise, which authorizes construction and operation of the Cable System.

"Franchise Agreement" or "Agreement" shall mean this Agreement and any amendments or modifications hereto.

"Franchise Area" means the present legal boundaries of Cumberland County, Tennessee, as of the Effective Date, and shall also include any additions thereto, by annexation or other legal means.

"Franchising Authority" means Cumberland County, Tennessee, or the lawful successor, transferee, designee, or assignee thereof.

"Grantee" shall have the meaning set forth in the preamble hereof.

"Gross Revenue" means the Cable Service revenue derived by the Grantee from the operation of the Cable System in the Franchise Area to provide Cable Services, calculated in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. Cable Service revenue includes monthly basic, premium and pay-per-view video fees, advertising and home shopping revenue, installation fees and equipment rental fees. Gross Revenue shall not include refundable deposits, bad debt, late fees, investment income, programming launch support payments, advertising sales commissions, nor any taxes, fees or assessments imposed or assessed by any governmental authority.

"Person" means any natural person or any association, firm, partnership, joint venture, corporation, or other legally recognized entity, whether for-profit or not-for profit, but shall not mean the Franchising Authority.

"Public Way" shall mean the surface of, and the space above and below, any public street, highway, freeway, bridge, land path, alley, court, boulevard, sidewalk, way, lane, public way, drive, circle or other public right-of-way, including, but not limited to, public utility easements, dedicated utility strips, or rights-of-way dedicated for compatible uses and any temporary or permanent fixtures or improvements located thereon now or hereafter held by the Franchising Authority in the Franchise Area, which shall entitle the Franchising Authority and the Grantee to the use thereof for the purpose of installing, operating, repairing, and maintaining the Cable System. Public Way shall also mean any easement now or hereafter held by the Franchising Authority within the Franchise Area for the purpose of public travel, or for utility or public service use dedicated for compatible uses, and shall include other easements or

rights-of-way as shall, within their proper use and meaning, entitle the Franchising Authority and the Grantee to the use thereof for the purposes of installing, operating, and maintaining the Grantee's Cable System over poles, wires, cables, conductors, ducts, conduits, vaults, manholes, amplifiers, appliances, attachments, and other property as may be ordinarily necessary and appurtenant to the Cable System.

## SECTION 2 Grant of Authority

- 2.1. Grant of Franchise. The Franchising Authority hereby grants to the Grantee under the Cable Act a nonexclusive Franchise, which authorizes the Grantee to construct and operate a Cable System in, along, among, upon, across, above, over, under, or in any manner connected with Public Ways within the Franchise Area, and for that purpose to erect, install, construct, repair, replace, reconstruct, maintain, or retain in, on, over, under, upon, across, or along any Public Way and all extensions thereof and additions thereto, such poles, wires, cables, conductors, ducts, conduits, vaults, manholes, pedestals, amplifiers, appliances, attachments, and other related property or equipment as may be necessary or appurtenant to the Cable System. Nothing in this Franchise shall be construed to prohibit the Grantee from offering any service over its Cable System that is not prohibited by federal, state or local law.
- 2.2. <u>Term of Franchise</u>. The term of the Franchise granted hereunder shall be for a term of ten (10) years, commencing on February 20, 2007 (hereinafter, the "Effective Date") and ending on February 19, 2017, unless this Franchise is renewed, automatically extended for a period as provided in Section 2.6 below, or is lawfully terminated in accordance with the terms of this Franchise Agreement and the Cable Act.
- 2.3. <u>Renewal</u>. Any renewal of this Franchise Agreement shall be governed by and comply with the provisions of Section 626 of the Cable Act, as amended.
- 2.4. Reservation of Authority. Nothing in this Franchise Agreement shall (A) abrogate the right of the Franchising Authority to perform any public works or public improvements of any description, (B) be construed as a waiver of any codes or ordinances of general applicability promulgated by the Franchising Authority, or (C) be construed as a waiver or release of the rights of the Franchising Authority in and to the Public Ways.

### 2.5. Competitive Equity.

2.5.1. The Grantee acknowledges and agrees that the Franchising Authority reserves the right to grant one or more additional franchises to provide Cable Service within the Franchise Area; provided, however, that no such franchise agreement shall contain terms or conditions more favorable or less burdensome to the competitive entity than the material terms and conditions herein, including, but not limited to, franchise fees; insurance; system build-out requirements; performance bonds or similar instruments; public, education and government access channels and capital support; customer service standards; required reports and related record keeping; and enforcement provisions. If any such additional and/or competitive franchise is granted by the Franchising Authority which, in the reasonable opinion of the Grantee, contains more favorable or less burdensome terms or conditions than this Franchise Agreement, then the Grantee may give written notice to the Franchising Authority stating the

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specific terms and/or conditions in the competitive franchise that are more favorable or less burdensome than those contained in this Franchise Agreement. Upon receipt of any such notice, if the Franchising Authority, acting reasonably, agrees with the Grantee's assertion, then the Franchising Authority shall modify this Franchise Agreement to include any more favorable or less burdensome term or condition, provided, the Grantee agrees, upon the request of the Franchising Authority, to also modify this Franchise Agreement to include any term or condition contained in the competitive franchise that is more favorable to the Franchising Authority or more burdensome to the Grantee, in order that one operator not be granted an unfair competitive advantage over another, and to provide all parties equal protection under the law.

- 2.5.2. Any franchise granted by the Franchising Authority shall be non-exclusive. Any Person desiring a new cable television franchise in the Franchising Area shall file with the Franchising Authority an application for a new cable television franchise in a form acceptable or specified by the Franchising Authority, and in accordance with procedures and schedules established by the Franchising Authority. In the event an application for a new cable television franchise is filed with the Franchising Authority proposing to serve the Franchise Area, in whole or in part, the Franchising Authority shall notify any existing Grantee or incumbent cable operator of such application.
- 2.5.3 Notwithstanding any other provision in this Franchise, in the event any change to local, state or federal law occurring during the term of this Franchise eliminates the requirement for any persons desiring to construct, operate or maintain a cable system in the City to obtain a franchise from the City for the construction, operation or maintenance of a cable system, then, at Grantee's sole option, Grantee shall have the right immediately to terminate this Franchise. If Grantee chooses to terminate this Franchise pursuant to this provision, this Franchise shall be deemed to have expired by its terms on the effective date of any such change in law, whether or not such law allows existing franchise agreements to continue until the date of expiration provided in any existing franchise. Furthermore, in the event any change to local, state or federal law occurring during the term of this Franchise materially alters the regime of cable franchising applicable to any persons desiring to construct, operate or maintain a cable system in the City in a way that reduces the regulatory or economic burdens for such person, then, at Grantee's request, the City shall agree with Grantee to amend this Franchise to similarly reduce the regulatory or economic burdens on Grantee. It is the intent of this section that, at Grantee's election, Grantee shall be subject to no more burdensome regulation or provided lesser benefits under this Franchise than any other persons that might construct, operate or maintain a cable system in the City.
- 2.6 Extension and Renewal. In the event the Grantee has upgraded the Cable System to its Subscribers in the Fairfield Glade area on or before February 20, 2009, which is the second (2<sup>nd</sup>) anniversary of the Effective Date of this Agreement, the Term of this Agreement will be automatically extended for an additional five (5) years commencing on February 19, 2017, which is the expiration date of the ten (10) year term as provided for in Section 2.2 above

## SECTION 3 The System

3.1. Permits and General Obligations. The Grantee shall be responsible for obtaining, at its own cost and expense, all permits, licenses, or other forms of approval or authorization necessary to construct, operate, maintain or repair the Cable System, or any part thereof, prior to the commencement of any such activity. Construction, installation, and maintenance of the Cable System shall be performed in a safe, thorough and reliable manner using materials of good and durable quality. All transmission and distribution structures, poles, other lines, and equipment installed by the Grantee for use in the Cable System in accordance with the terms and conditions of this Franchise Agreement shall be located so as to minimize the interference with the proper use of the Public Ways and the rights and reasonable convenience of property owners who own property that adjoins any such Public Way.

### 3.2. Conditions on Street Occupancy.

- 3.2.1. New Grades or Lines. If the grades or lines of any Public Way within the Franchise Area are lawfully changed at any time during the term of this Franchise Agreement, then the Grantee shall, upon reasonable written notice from the Franchising Authority and at its own cost and expense, protect or promptly alter or relocate the Cable System, or any part thereof, so as to conform with any such new grades or lines. If public funds are available to any Person using such street or Public Way for the purpose of defraying the cost of any of the foregoing, the Franchising Authority shall, upon written request of the Grantee, make application for such funds on behalf of the Grantee. If the County requests the relocation, removal or reinstallation of Grantee's property in any of the Public Ways in the Franchise Area for the sole purpose of installing or providing its own cable television or telecommunications services or those of a second cable television or telecommunications service provider in competition with Grantee, then such cost shall not be borne by Grantee but by the County or the requesting entity.
- 3.2.2. Relocation at request of Third Party. The Grantee shall, upon reasonable prior written request of any Person holding a permit issued by the Franchising Authority to move any structure, temporarily move its wires to permit the moving of such structure; provided (i) the Grantee may impose a reasonable charge on any Person for the movement of its wires, and such charge may be required to be paid in advance of the movement of its wires; and (ii) the Grantee is given not less than ten (10) business days advance written notice to arrange for such temporary relocation.
- 3.2.3. Restoration of Public Ways. If in connection with the construction, operation, maintenance, or repair of the Cable System, the Grantee disturbs, alters, or damages any Public Way, the Grantee agrees that it shall at its own cost and expense replace and restore any such Public Way to a condition reasonably comparable to the condition of the Public Way existing immediately prior to the disturbance.
- 3.2.4. Safety Requirements. The Grantee shall, at its own cost and expense, undertake all necessary and appropriate efforts to maintain its work sites in a safe manner in order to prevent failures and accidents that may cause damage, injuries or nuisances. All work

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undertaken on the Cable System shall be performed in substantial compliance with applicable FCC or other federal, state, and local regulations and the National Electric Safety Code. The Cable System shall not unreasonably endanger or interfere with the safety of Persons or property in the Franchise Area.

- 3.2.5. Trimming of Trees and Shrubbery. The Grantee shall have the authority to trim trees or other natural growth overhanging any of its Cable System in the Franchise Area so as to prevent contact with the Grantee's wires, cables, or other equipment. All such trimming shall be done at the Grantee's sole cost and expense. The Grantee shall reasonably compensate the Franchising Authority for any damage caused by such trimming, or shall, in its sole discretion and at its own cost and expense, reasonably replace all trees or shrubs so damaged. Such replacement shall satisfy any obligations the Grantee may have to the Franchising Authority pursuant to the terms of this Section 3.2.5.
- If all of the transmission and 3.2.6. Aerial and Underground Construction. distribution facilities of all of the respective public or municipal utilities in any area of the Franchise Area are underground, the Grantee shall place its Cable Systems' transmission and distribution facilities underground; provided that such facilities are actually capable of receiving the Grantee's cable and other equipment without technical degradation of the Cable System's signal quality. In any region(s) of the Franchise Area where the transmission or distribution facilities of the respective public or municipal utilities are both aerial and underground, the Grantee shall have the sole discretion to construct, operate, and maintain all of its transmission and distribution facilities, or any part thereof, aerially or underground. Nothing in this Section 3.2.6. shall be construed to require the Grantee to construct, operate, or maintain underground any ground-mounted appurtenances such as customer taps, line extenders, system passive devices, amplifiers, power supplies, pedestals, or other related equipment. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in this Section 3.2.6., in the event that all of the transmission or distribution facilities of all of the respective public or municipal utilities are required to be placed underground after the Effective Date of this Franchise Agreement, the Grantee shall only be required to construct, operate and maintain all of its transmission and distribution facilities underground if it is given reasonable notice and access to the public and municipal utilities' facilities at the time that such are placed underground.

## SECTION 4 Service Obligations

- 4.1. General Service Obligation. The Grantee shall provide Cable Service to every residential dwelling unit within the Franchise Area reaching the minimum density of at least thirty (30) dwelling units per mile measured from Grantee's existing distribution cable and the extension area is not served by another cable television operator. The Grantee shall offer Cable Service to all new homes or previously unserved homes located within one hundred twenty five (125) feet of the Grantee's existing distribution cable.
- 4.1.1. The Grantee may elect to provide Cable Service to areas not meeting the above density and distance standards. The Grantee may impose an additional charge in excess of its regular installation charge for any service installation requiring a drop in excess of the above standards. Any such additional charge shall be computed on a time plus materials basis to be

calculated on that portion of the installation which exceeds the one hundred twenty five (125) foot standard set forth above.

- 4.2. <u>Programming</u>. The Grantee shall offer to all Customers a diversity of video programming services.
- 4.3. <u>No Discrimination</u>. Neither the Grantee nor any of its employees, agents, representatives, contractors, subcontractors, or consultants, nor any other Person, shall discriminate or permit discrimination between or among any Persons in the availability of Cable Services provided in connection with the Cable System in the Franchise Area. It shall be the right of all Persons to continuously receive all available services provided on the Cable System so long as such Person's financial or other obligations to the Grantee are satisfied.
- 4.4. New Developments. The Franchising Authority shall provide the Grantee with written notice of the issuance of building or development permits for planned developments within the Franchise Area requiring undergrounding of cable facilities. The Franchising Authority agrees to require the developer, as a condition of issuing the permit, to give the Grantee access to open trenches for deployment of cable facilities and written notice of the date of availability of trenches. Such notice must be received by the Grantee at least ten (10) business days written notice of the date of the availability of open trenches. Developer shall be responsible for the digging and backfilling of all trenches. The Grantee shall be responsible for engineering and deployment of labor applicable to its cable facilities. Installation of cable facilities from utility easements to individual homes or other structures shall be at the cost of the home/building owner or developer unless otherwise provided.
- 4.5. <u>Prohibition against Reselling Service</u>. No Person shall resell, without the express prior written consent of the Grantee, any Cable Service, program or signal transmitted over the Cable System by the Grantee.

## SECTION 5 Fees and Charges to Customers

5.1. Rates, Fees, Charges. All rates, fees, charges, deposits and associated terms and conditions to be imposed by the Grantee or any affiliated Person for any Cable Service as of the Effective Date of this Franchise Agreement shall be in accordance with the FCC's rate regulations. Before any new or modified rate, fee, or charge is imposed, the Grantee shall follow the applicable FCC notice requirements and rules and notify affected Customers, which notice may be by any means permitted under applicable law. Except to the extent otherwise expressly permitted by applicable law, the Grantee shall provide Cable Service to each resident in the Franchise Area in accordance with a uniform rate structure throughout the Franchise Area. The preceding requirement shall not prevent the Grantee from using bulk, commercial, promotional and other rates in accordance with federal law.

# SECTION 6 Customer Service Standards; Customer Bills; and Privacy Protection

- 6.1. <u>Customer Service Standards</u>. The Franchising Authority hereby adopts the customer service standards and rules set forth in Part 76, §76.309 of the FCC's rules and regulations, as amended. The Grantee shall comply in all respects with the customer service requirements established by the FCC pursuant to Section 632(c) of the Cable Act and any corresponding regulations, thereto.
- 6.2. <u>Customer Bills</u>. Customer bills shall be designed in such a way as to present the information contained therein clearly and comprehensibly to Customers, and in a way that (A) is not misleading, (B) does not omit material information, and (C) does not mischaracterize any information. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in Section 6.1, above, the Grantee may, in its sole discretion, consolidate costs on Customer bills as may otherwise be permitted by Section 622(c) of the Cable Act (47 U.S.C. §542(c)).
- 6.3. <u>Privacy Protection</u>. The Grantee shall comply with all applicable federal and state privacy laws, including Section 631 of the Cable Act and regulations adopted pursuant thereto.
- 6.4. <u>Local Business Office</u>. During the term of this Franchise Agreement, the Grantee shall maintain a business office or agent within a reasonable distance of the Franchise Area and shall be open during normal business hours. Grantee further agrees to provide a toll-free number to customers residing in the Franchise Area.

# SECTION 7 Oversight and Regulation by Franchising Authority

- 7.1 Franchise Fees. The Grantee shall pay to the Franchising Authority franchise fees in an amount equal to five percent (5%) of annual Gross Receipts actually received from the operation of the Cable System to provide Cable Service in the Franchise Area; and Grantee shall not be compelled to pay any higher percentage of franchise fees than any other cable operator providing service in the Franchise Area. The payment of franchise fees shall be made on a monthly basis and shall be due forty-five (45) days after the close of each calendar month. Each franchise fee payment shall be accompanied by a certified report from a representative of the Grantee, which shows the basis for the computation of franchise fees paid during that period. If the franchise fee payment is not actually received by the Franchising Authority on or before the applicable due date set forth in this Section 7.1, interest shall accrue on the outstanding amount at rates published by the Internal Revenue Service for tax refunds and additional tax payments for the period of delinquency.
- 7.2. Franchise Fees Subject to Inspection.
- 7.2.1. Upon reasonable prior written notice, during normal business hours, at Grantee's business office, the Franchising Authority shall have the right to inspect the Grantee's financial records used to calculate the Franchising Authority's franchise fees, and the right to audit and to re-compute any amounts determined to be payable under this Section; provided, however,

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that any such audit shall take place within two (2) years from the date the Franchising Authority receives such payment, after which period any such payment shall be considered final.

- 7.2.2. Upon the completion of any such audit conducted by the Franchising Authority, the Franchising Authority shall provide to the Grantee a final report, which sets forth the Franchising Authority's findings in detail, including any and all substantiating evidence. The Grantee shall have thirty (30) days from the receipt of the final report to provide the Franchising Authority with a written response agreeing to or refuting the results of the report, including any substantiating documentation. Based on these reports and responses, the parties shall agree upon a "Finally Settled Amount." Any "Finally Settled Amount" due to the Franchising Authority as a result of such audit shall be paid to the Franchising Authority by the Grantee within thirty (30) days from receipt of written notice of the Finally Settled Amount from the Franchising Authority. For purposes of this Section 7.2.2, the term "Finally Settled Amount" shall mean the agreed upon underpayment, if any, to the Franchising Authority by the Grantee as a result of any such audit. The Franchising Authority shall bear the expense of any inspection or audit of the Grantee's books and records.
- 7.3. Oversight of Franchise. In accordance with applicable law, the Franchising Authority shall have the right to oversee, regulate and, on reasonable prior written notice and in the presence of Grantee's employee, periodically inspect the construction, operation and maintenance of the Cable System in the Franchise Area, and all parts thereof, as necessary to monitor Grantee's compliance with the provisions of this Franchise Agreement.
- 7.4. Technical Standards. The Grantee shall comply with all appropriate technical standards of the FCC as published in subpart K of 47 C.F.R. § 76. To the extent those standards are altered, modified, or amended during the term of this Franchise Agreement, the Grantee shall comply with such alterations, modifications or amendments within a reasonable period after their adoption by the FCC. As provided in these rules, the Franchising Authority shall have, upon written request, the right to obtain a copy of tests and records required to be performed pursuant to the FCC's rules.

### 7.5. Maintenance of Books, Records, and Files.

- 7.5.1. Books and Records. Throughout the term of this Franchise Agreement, the Grantee shall provide the Franchising Authority, upon reasonable prior written notice, access to records or other information reasonably sufficient, as determined by Grantee, to monitor Grantee's compliance with the provisions of this Franchise Agreement; such access to be provided at the Grantee's business office, during normal business hours and without unreasonably interfering with Grantee's business operations. Such records and information shall include any records required to be kept in a public file by the Grantee pursuant to the rules and regulations of the FCC. All such records that may be subject to inspection by the Franchising Authority shall be retained by the Grantee for a minimum period of two (2) years.
- 7.5.2. <u>File for Public Inspection</u>. Throughout the term of this Franchise Agreement, the Grantee shall maintain at its business office, in a file available for public inspection during normal business hours, those documents required pursuant to the FCC's rules and regulations.

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- 7.5.3. Proprietary Information. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary set forth in this Section 7, the Grantee shall not be required to disclose information which it reasonably deems to be proprietary or confidential in nature. The Franchising Authority agrees to treat any information disclosed by the Grantee as confidential and only to disclose it to employees, representatives, and agents of the Franchising Authority that have a need to know, or in order to enforce this Franchise Agreement and who agree to maintain the confidentiality of all such information. The Grantee shall not be required to provide Customer information in violation of Section 631 of the Cable Act. For purposes of this Section 7, the terms "proprietary or confidential" include, but are not limited to, information relating to the Cable System design, Customer lists, Cable Service and marketing plans, financial information unrelated to the calculation of franchise fees or rates pursuant to FCC rules, or other information that is reasonably determined by the Grantee to be competitively sensitive. In the event that the Franchising Authority receives a request under a state "sunshine," public records or similar law for the disclosure of information the Grantee has designated as confidential, trade secret or proprietary, the Franchising Authority shall notify Grantee of such request and cooperate with Grantee in opposing such request.
- 7.6. Transfer of a Franchise

  Neither the Grantee nor any other Person may transfer the Cable System or this Franchise without the prior written consent of the Franchising Authority, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld or delayed. No such consent shall be required, however, for (i) a transfer in trust, by mortgage, hypothecation, or by assignment of any rights, title, or interest of the Grantee in this Franchise or the Cable System in order to secure indebtedness, or (ii) a transfer to an entity directly or indirectly owned or controlled by Comcast Corporation. Within thirty (30) days of receiving a request for consent, the Franchising Authority shall, in accordance with FCC rules and regulations, notify the Grantee in writing of additional information it requires, if any, to determine the legal, financial, and technical qualifications of the transferee. If the Franchising Authority has not taken action on the Grantee's request for transfer within one hundred twenty (120) days after receiving such request, consent to the transfer shall be deemed given.

## SECTION 8 Insurance and Indemnity

8.1. <u>Insurance</u>. Throughout the term of this Franchise Agreement, the Grantee shall, at its own cost and expense, maintain Comprehensive General Liability Insurance and provide the Franchising Authority, certificates of insurance designating the Franchising Authority and its officers, boards, commissions, councils, elected officials, agents and employees as additional insureds and demonstrating that the Grantee has obtained the insurance required in this Section 8. Such policy or policies shall be in the minimum amount of One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00) for bodily injury or death to any one person, and One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00) for bodily injury or death of any two or more persons resulting from one occurrence, and One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00) for property damage resulting from any one accident. Such policy or policies shall be non-cancelable except upon thirty (30) days prior written notice to the Franchising Authority. The Grantee shall indemnify and hold harmless the Franchising Authority from any workers compensation claims to which the Grantee may become subject during the term of this Franchise Agreement

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8.2. <u>Indemnification</u>. The Grantee shall indemnify, defend and hold harmless the Franchising Authority, its officers, employees, and agents from and against any liability or claims resulting from property damage or bodily injury (including accidental death), which arise out of the Grantee's construction, operation, or maintenance of its Cable System in the Franchise Area, including, but not limited to, reasonable attorneys' fees, provided that the Franchising Authority shall give the Grantee written notice of its obligation to indemnify the Franchising Authority within ten (10) business days of receipt of a claim or action pursuant to this Section 8.2. If the Franchising Authority determines that it is necessary for it to employ separate counsel, the costs for such separate counsel shall be the responsibility of the Franchising Authority. If the Franchising Authority determines in good faith that it's interests cannot be represented by the Grantee, Grantee shall be excused from any obligation to defend the Franchising Authority.

## SECTION 9 System Description and Service

- 9.1. During the term of this Franchise Agreement the Grantee's Cable System shall be capable of providing a minimum of fifty (50) channels of video programming with satisfactory reception available to its customers in the Franchise Area.
- 9.2. Service to School Buildings. The Grantee shall provide free "Basic" and "Expanded Basic" tier Cable Service, and free installation of one outlet to each accredited K through 12 public and private school, not including "home schools," located in the Franchise Area within one hundred twenty five (125) feet of the Grantee's existing distribution cable as of the Effective Date of this Franchise Agreement.
- 9.3. Service to Governmental and Institutional Facilities. The Grantee shall provide free "Basic" and "Expanded Basic" tier Cable Service and free installation of one outlet to each non-residential municipal building located in the Franchise Area within one hundred twenty five (125) feet of the Grantee's existing distribution cable as of the Effective Date of this Franchise Agreement. Municipal buildings are those non-residential buildings owned or leased by the Franchising Authority for government administrative purposes, and shall not include buildings owned by Franchising Authority but leased to third parties or buildings such as storage facilities at which government employees are not regularly stationed. (Attachment A.)

### SECTION 10 Enforcement and Termination of Franchise

- 10.1 <u>Notice of Violation or Default</u>. In the event the Franchising Authority believes that the Grantee has not complied with the material terms of this Franchise Agreement, it shall notify the Grantee in writing with specific details regarding the exact nature of the alleged noncompliance or default.
- 10.2. Grantee's Right to Cure or Respond. The Grantee shall have forty-five (45) days from the receipt of the Franchising Authority's notice described in Section 10.1, above: (A) to respond to the Franchising Authority, contesting the assertion of noncompliance or default, or (B) to cure such default, or (C) in the event that, by nature of the default, such default cannot be cured within the forty-five (45) day period, initiate reasonable steps to remedy such default and

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notify the Franchising Authority of the steps being taken and the projected date that they will be completed.

- 10.3. Public Hearings. In the event the Grantee fails to respond to the Franchising Authority's notice described in Section 10.1., above, or in the event that the alleged default is not remedied within forty-five (45) days or the date projected by the Grantee pursuant to Section 10.2., above, the Franchising Authority shall schedule a public hearing to investigate the default. Such public hearing shall be held at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Franchising Authority that is scheduled at a time, which is no less than ten (10) business days therefrom. The Franchising Authority shall notify the Grantee in writing of the time and place of such meeting and provide the Grantee with a reasonable opportunity to be heard.
- 10.4. <u>Enforcement</u>. Subject to applicable federal and state law, in the event the Franchising Authority, after such meeting, determines that the Grantee is in default of any provision of the Franchise, the Franchising Authority may:
- 10.4.1. seek specific performance of any provision, which reasonably lends itself to such remedy, as an alternative to damages or seek other equitable relief; or
- 10.4.2. in the case of a substantial default of a material provision of the Franchise, declare the Franchise Agreement to be revoked in accordance with the following:
- (i) The Franchising Authority shall give written notice to the Grantee of its intent to revoke the Franchise on the basis of a pattern of noncompliance by the Grantee, including one or more instances of substantial noncompliance with a material provision of this Franchise Agreement. The notice shall set forth with specificity the exact nature of the noncompliance. The Grantee shall have ninety (90) days from the receipt of such notice to object in writing and to state its reasons for such objection. In the event the Franchising Authority has not received a satisfactory response from the Grantee, it may then seek termination of this Franchise Agreement at a public hearing. The Franchising Authority shall cause to be served upon the Grantee, at least ten (10) days prior to such public hearing, a written notice specifying the time and place of such hearing and stating its intent to request termination of the Franchise.
- Grantee an opportunity to state its position on the matter, present evidence and question witnesses, after which it shall determine whether or not the Franchise shall be revoked. The public hearing shall be on the record and a written transcript shall be made available to the Grantee within ten (10) business days. The decision of the Franchising Authority shall be in writing and shall be delivered to the Grantee in the manner set forth in Section 11.2, herein. The Grantee may appeal such determination to an appropriate court, which shall have the power to review the decision of the Franchising Authority "de novo" and to modify or reverse such decision as justice may require. Such appeal to the appropriate court must be taken within sixty (60) days of the issuance of the determination of the Franchising Authority.
- (iii) The Franchising Authority may, at its sole discretion, take any lawful action that it deems appropriate to enforce its rights under the Franchise in lieu of revocation.

- 10.5. <u>Technical Violation</u>. The Franchising Authority agrees that it is not its intention to subject the Grantee to penalties, fines, forfeitures or revocation of the Franchise for so-called "technical" breach(es) or violation(s) of the Franchise, which shall include, but not be limited, to the following:
- 10.5.1. in instances or for matters where a violation or a breach of the Franchise by the Grantee was good faith error that resulted in no or minimal negative impact on the Customers within the Franchise Area; or
- 10.5.2. where there existed circumstances reasonably beyond the control of the Grantee and which precipitated a violation by the Grantee of the Franchise, or which were deemed to have prevented the Grantee from complying with a term or condition of the Franchise.

## SECTION 11 Miscellaneous Provisions

- 11.1 Force Majeure. The Grantee shall not be held in default under, or in noncompliance with, the provisions of this Franchise Agreement, nor suffer any enforcement or penalty relating to noncompliance or default (including termination, cancellation or revocation of the Franchise), where such noncompliance or alleged defaults occurred or were caused by strike, riot, war, earthquake, flood, tidal wave, unusually severe rain or snow storm, hurricane, tornado or other catastrophic act of nature, labor disputes, failure of utility service necessary to operate the Cable System, governmental, administrative or judicial order or regulation or other event that is reasonably beyond the Grantee's ability to anticipate or control. This provision also covers work delays caused by waiting for utility providers to service or monitor their own utility poles on which the Grantee's cable and/or equipment is attached, as well as unavailability of materials and/or qualified labor to perform the work necessary.
- 11.2. <u>Notice</u>. All notices shall be in writing and shall be sufficiently given and served upon the other party by hand delivery, first class mail, registered or certified, return receipt requested, postage prepaid, or by facsimile with confirmed transmission and addressed as follows:



The Franchising Authority:

Cumberland County

Attn: County Mayor's Office

2 North Main Street

Crossville, Tennessee 38555

The Grantee:

Comcast of the South Attn: General Manager 5720 Asheville Highway Knoxville, TN 37924

Facsimile: (865) 862-5090

with a copy to:

Comcast Cable Communications, Inc. Attn: Vice President, Government Affairs 360 Interstate North Parkway, Suite 600

Atlanta, GA 30339

Facsimile: (678) 385-5101

and:

Comcast Cable Communications, Inc.

Attn: Legal Dept. 1500 Market Street Philadelphia, PA 19102 Facsimile: (215) 640-4050

- 11.3. Entire Agreement. This Franchise Agreement, including all Exhibits, embodies the entire understanding and agreement of the Franchising Authority and the Grantee with respect to the subject matter hereof. All ordinances or parts of ordinances or other agreements whether written, verbal, or otherwise between the Grantee and the Franchising Authority that are in conflict with the provisions of this Franchise Agreement are hereby declared invalid and superseded and this Franchise Agreement shall control.
- 11.4. Severability. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, or other portion of this Franchise Agreement is, for any reason, declared invalid, in whole or in part, by any court, agency, commission, legislative body, or other authority of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct, and independent portion. Such declaration shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions hereof, which other portions shall continue in full force and effect.
- 11.5. Governing Law. This Franchise Agreement shall be deemed to be executed in Cumberland County, State of Tennessee, and shall be governed in all respects, including validity, interpretation and effect, and construed in accordance with, the laws of the State of Tennessee, as applicable to contracts entered into and performed entirely within the State.
- 11.6. <u>Modification</u>. No provision of this Franchise Agreement shall be amended or otherwise modified, in whole or in part, except by an instrument, in writing, duly executed by the Franchising Authority and the Grantee, which amendment shall be authorized on behalf of the Franchising Authority through the adoption of an appropriate resolution or order by the Franchising Authority, as required by applicable law.

- 11.7. No Third Party Beneficiaries. Nothing in this Franchise nor any prior agreement, is or was intended to confer third-party beneficiary status on any member of the public to enforce the terms of such agreements or Franchise."
- 11.8. No Waiver of Rights. Nothing in this Franchise Agreement shall be construed as a waiver of any rights, substantive or procedural, Grantee may have under federal or state law unless such waiver is expressly stated herein.

### **SECTION 12**

### Public, Educational and Governmental Access and Emergency Alert System ("EAS")

Use of channel capacity for public, educational and governmental ("PEG") access shall be provided in the Fairfield Glade area only on the most basic tier of service offered by Grantee in accordance with the Cable Act, Section 611, and as further set forth below. Grantee does not relinquish its ownership of or ultimate right of control over such channel capacity by designating it for PEG use. A PEG access user — whether an individual, educational or governmental user — acquires no property or other interest by virtue of the use of channel capacity so designated, and may not rely on the continued use of a particular channel number, no matter how long the same channel may have been designated for such use. Grantee shall not exercise editorial control over any public, educational, or governmental use of channel capacity, except Grantee may refuse to transmit any public access program or portion of a public access program that contains obscenity, indecency, or nudity. The Franchising Authority shall be responsible for developing, implementing, interpreting and enforcing rules for PEG access use which shall insure that PEG access will be available on a first-come non-discriminatory basis.

- 12.1. <u>Public Access</u>. A "Public Access Channel" is a channel designated for noncommercial use by the public on a first-come, first-served, nondiscriminatory basis. A Public Access Channel may not be used to cablecast programs for profit, nonpolitical or commercial fundraising in any fashion. Grantee shall designate capacity on one (1) channel(s) for Public Access programming. Unused capacity may be utilized by Grantee subject to the provisions for "fallow time" below.
- 12.2. <u>Educational Access</u>. An "Educational Access Channel" is a channel designated for noncommercial use by educational institutions such as public or private schools, but not "home schools," community colleges, and universities. Unused capacity may be utilized by Grantee subject to the provisions for "fallow time" below.
- 12.3. Government Access. A "Governmental Access Channel" is a channel designated for noncommercial use by the Franchising Authority for the purpose of showing the public local government at work. Grantee shall designate capacity on one (1) channel(s) for government video programming provided by the Franchising Authority. Grantee further agrees that as soon as reasonably possible, Grantee will connect its System to the Gateway Learning Center for purposes of receiving programming from the Franchising Authority. Unused capacity may be utilized by Grantee subject to the provisions for "fallow time" below.

- 12.4. <u>Grantee Use of Fallow Time</u>. Because blank or under utilized PEG channels are not in the public interest, in the event the Franchising Authority or other PEG access user elects not to fully program its Channel(s), a Grantee may program unused time on those channels subject to reclamation by the Franchising Authority upon no less than 60 days notice.
- 12.5. <u>Indemnification</u>. The Franchising Authority shall indemnify Grantee for any liability, loss, or damage it may suffer due to violation of the intellectual property rights of third parties on any PEG channel and from claims arising out of the Franchising Authority's rules for or administration of access.
- 12.6. <u>Emergency Alert System</u>. The Grantee shall provide, but without charge and subject to the rules and regulations of the FCC, a public Emergency Alert System ("EAS") or successor to that system, that complies with the requirements currently set forth in FCC Regulations.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this Franchise Agreement has been executed by the duly authorized representatives of the parties as set forth below, as of this 20th day of February, 2007.

Attest:

Franchising Authority:

Name! Brock Hill

Title: Cumberland County Mayor

Attest:

Attest:

Comcast

Comcast of the South

By: Comcast of the South, L.P., its general partner By: COM South, LLC, its general partner By: Comcast of the South Inc. its sole member

Bv:

President, Southern Division

Comcast of Southern Tennessee, LLC

John H Ridall Jr

President, Southern Division

Attachment A
Courtesy Accounts

Security Building 7258 Peavine Fire Hall 7258 Peavine EMS 7258 Peavine

FFG Community Club: 435 Lakeview, 576 Westchester, 421 Stonehenge, 7827 Peavine