

TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

GENERAL RESPONSIBILITIES

The Iowa City Telecommunications Commission (ICTC) is a City commission comprised of five Iowa City residents and is mandated to facilitate and to regulate the smooth and effective development and operation of the City's Broadband Telecommunications Network (BTN), the City's cable television system, as well as advise on telecommunications related matters. The Commission makes its recommendations to City Council in matters pertaining to the BTN, resolves disputes about the operation of the BTN, conducts periodic evaluations of the BTN operations, and in general facilitates BTN use by citizens of Iowa City, which includes the promotion and facilitation of the access channels and community programming.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN FISCAL YEAR 2010

Ongoing review of Federal and State legislative and regulatory activity related to cable television and other telecommunications industries.

Oversaw basic cable rate and equipment regulation.

Monitored and reviewed recent modifications to the State franchise law during the 2010 legislative session.

Continued to support and work with relevant national organizations regarding legal challenges to FCC rule making related to the local franchising authority's rights and responsibilities.

Monitored and reviewed legal developments affecting Iowa City's cable TV franchise.

Monitored and commented to the FCC on the issue of retransmission fees especially regarding how this issue impacted Iowa City customers during the Mediacom/Sinclair Communications Group negotiations.

Continued the process of the Triennial Review of the current cable television franchise agreement with Mediacom.

Reviewed subscriber cable TV complaints received by the Cable TV Administrator.

Received and reviewed monthly, quarterly and annual program and progress reports from the Cable TV Administrator, City Channel 4, InfoVision Channel 5, Library Channel 10, Kirkwood's Channel 11, PATV Access Channel 18, Educational Channel 21, Senior Citizen Television (SCTV) and the University of Iowa Channel 17.