

# **TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION**

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## **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 2011**

Ongoing review of Federal and State legislative and regulatory activity associated with cable television service, national, state and local broadband service and the activities of related communication and telecommunications industries.

Provided support for the national "Community Access Preservation Act" or the "CAP Act" designed to preserve legal and financial support for PEG channels.

Monitored and reviewed national and state legal developments important to the continued maintenance and enforcement of the Iowa City cable television franchise with Mediacom Communications Corporation and/or potential alternative or additional cable and video service providers.

Completed and presented to City Council the Triennial Review and report of the current cable television franchise agreement with Mediacom Communications Corporation.

Oversaw, reviewed and proposed the approval of the Maximum Permitted Rates to be charged in Iowa City by Mediacom for basic cable television service, equipment rentals, and installations as determined by FCC forms 1240 and 1205 for the period of August 1, 2011 through July 31, 2012.

Reviewed public and subscriber comments and complaints about local cable television service received by the Cable Television Administrator.

Maintained oversight of the activities of local "access" cable television channels. 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.

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 and other related regulatory activity.