



Request for City Council Committee Action from the Communications Department

Date: November 1, 2011

To: The Honorable Betsy Hodges, Chair, Ways & Means/Budget Committee

Subject: Alternative Use Agreement with Minneapolis Public Schools

Recommendation: The City Council authorize the proper City officials to enter into an agreement with the Minneapolis Public Schools for use of the Alternative Network as defined in the City's franchise agreement with Comcast.

Previous Directives: Minneapolis Public School continues to use capacity on the Alternative Network for its internal, non-commercial communication needs.

Department Information

Prepared by: C. John Harrison, Manager, Cable & Media Services 612-673-2906

Approved by: _____

Sara Dietrich, Communications Director

Presenters in Committee: CJohn Harrison, Communications Department

Financial Impact *(delete all lines not applicable to your request)*

- No financial impact
- Action is within the Business Plan

Community Impact

- Neighborhood Notification
- City Goals
- Comprehensive Plan
- Zoning Code
- Other

Supporting Information

Part of the City's franchise agreement with Comcast includes an "Alternative Network," which is defined as a two fiber count sheath of additional fibers and coaxial cable and amplifiers within Comcast, interconnecting Minneapolis Public Schools. Minneapolis Public Schools uses capacity on the Alternative Network for its internal, noncommercial communications needs to share educational access programming among the seven high schools, the Minneapolis School District Headquarters and to Comcast for cablecasting on the four educational access channels.

This agreement between the City of Minneapolis and Minneapolis Public Schools grants Minneapolis Public Schools the nonexclusive right to use bandwidth on the Alternative Network. As part of the agreement, the Minneapolis Public Schools shall coordinate use of the Alternative Network to ensure that the School District's use does not interfere with the use by the City of Minneapolis or any other authorized users of the Alternative Network.