Local TV Broadcasts have become critical to a functioning democracy. It is the place where all citizens can learn what’s happening in the community and observer their representatives at work. This cannot – will not – be able to continue without adequate funding. Our cable monopolies don’t need more money. They do need to remain tuned into the needs of their customers and constituents. The least expensive way to support our democratic processes and to understand the communities they serve is to continue to support local cable access channels. They have been hobbling local cable channels for 20 years by forcing them to send their programs in SD vs. HD with monophonic and even only a single channel , Right or Left, monophonic channel in some instances.

Communications companies should be held to providing support for good local communications our society, their customers. This is even more critical as local radio broadcasts and many local TV channels move toward extinction as centralized programming is more profitable making the need for local information access even more important to a functioning democracy.