

In Reference to FCC Proceeding 05-311

Good Afternoon,

I am Terry Stiles, the Production Manager at Oxford Community Television, Oxford MI. I am sending you the following LOCAL opinions in order to remind you the transparency of LOCAL government and the preservation and well being of local information, news, and education in our LOCAL communities across the across the state of Michigan can and will be harshly and negatively effected should SB 637 pass during the upcoming Michigan Lane Duck sessions. In addition, lobbyists at the federal level are hoping FCC proposal to modify the Cable Act, Docket #18-92, will pass, which WILL negatively impact LOCAL Rights of Way control as well as the potential loss of PEG and Franchise Fees on a local level.

The following are officials, residents, and business owners who are requesting Local, State, and Federal law makers not to support MI Senate Bill 637 and the FCC proposed changes to the Cable Act.

Statement from the NATOA group in which we are a part.

"The tentative conclusion that cable franchise requirements such as public, educational and government channels and customer service obligations are franchise fees is not supported by the Cable Act or its legislative history, and would have significant, negative impacts on local governments and cable subscribers.

The tentative conclusion that local governments have no authority regarding cable operators' use of the rights of way to provide non-cable services similarly is not supported by the language of the Cable Act and clear legislative intent to preserve local authority over cable operators' non-cable services.

Both proposals are contrary to federal law and will create a special class of providers— cable operators—who receive a windfall at the expense of taxpayers and subscribers in communities across the country. We urge the Commission to reconsider its tentative conclusions. "

Oxford Township Supervisor Bill Dunn, Opinion: It is important for OCTV to stay viable. A lot of hard earned money is spent through taxes, fees, etc by hardworking people to bring Public Access into their homes, among other things, so that people who can't always attend government meetings can tune in to local public access and stay informed.

Oxford Township Trustee Jack Curtis, Opinion: "Oxford Community Television is one vital thread that helps to make the fabric of Oxford. Our cable station has provided many years of local information for community events that other wise may be missed by people who work or are physically unable to attend. Enacting the Wireline Infrastructure, WC Docket No. 17-84 will ultimately defund local Public Access with only weaken the close knit fabric we call community."

Former State Representative Brad Jacobsen, Opinion: "Oxford Community Television provides great coverage of our LOCAL community businesses and events, is an asset to our community and is doing a great job for our community."

County Commissioner Mike Spiz, Opinion: " I agree with Brad Jacobsen."

Leonard Village Council President Mike McDonald, Opinion : "Oxford Community Television Public Access Station in general is a favored and important way to communicate and demonstrate transparency to the public and the people of Michigan communities. The ability of citizens to be able to review and see their elected and appointed officials in action is integral tot he process of our local government."

Oxford Township Parks and Recreation Exec Director Ron Davis, Opinion "It's just another example of two different facets of local government working together for the betterment of our community. It saves our tax payers valuable funds while bettering customer service, providing additional volunteer opportunities and sharing community resources. The Public Relations team will be working with Oxford Community Television on a daily basis beginning February 2019.

Owner of Community Newspaper, Jim Sherman, Opinion: It takes a lot of good people to make a good community. It takes a good organization like Oxford Community Television to report and remind people what a great place Oxford is to live, work,, and enjoy. We are lucky to have such a dedicated and award winning group as we do in Oxford Community Television."

Village of Oxford Police Chief Mike Solwold, Opinion : Local Public Access in our community is very important. When I say the word local, I think home. Its information on what pertains to where I live specifically. In my field I want to know what's going on around me in my home town so I have information on how I need to respond or what I think I need to get involved in. LOCAL information.

Village of Oxford Council & Planning Commission member Maureen Helmuth, Opinion: "Our LOCAL seniors relay on Community Access television to be informed on what LOCAL governments are doing."

Village of Oxford Planning Commission Chair Gary Douglas, Opinion: "Oxford Community Television provides great function, important function in this community and is highly regarded as it is important for the community to be involved and serves TRANSPARENCY of local government meetings. It is a vital link to the LOCAL community.

Village Resident Leslie Pielack, Opinion: "If Public Access Television is not available in our community we can not film local government meetings, which is essential."

Local Business Owners Michael Guindon & Ginger Guindon, Opinion: "As a resident and business owner in a small town community, I value the local cable access channel that is provided to me. Having access to the local news and events is something you can not put a price on. I was humbled when asked to appear on one of the news shows with my service dog and her trainer. We educated people not only on how service dogs are trained, the services they can provide and the benefits for those that need them; but also on Systemic Lupis Erythematosus, an autoimmune disease that I have. We have been out in public many times and have had people come to us to say thank-you for sharing our information with them. Most say they learned either something about service dogs or about a disease they hadn't known about. That day we provided a service to our community by sharing our story on public access. One person stated he listens to OCTV because he is blind and its much easier than trying to convert a newspaper to braille.

Local Business Owner Larry Hochman of Brain Balance, Opinion: " We fully support Oxford Community Television and are grateful for the help Public Access Television has given our mission....Public Access is a great way for people to be exposed to something they wouldn't normally hear about on a normal channel. We believe in the mission of Community Access Television. It is a vehicle for messages the community needs to hear. We urge support for Public Access Television."