

Mass Access is a really important part of the Stoughton MA Community. And it is super important in many of the local community's. This platform helps to keep the us, the citizen informed of local events, local news, and local government proceedings, meeting etc. that help to keep us informed and give us opportunities to engage with our local friends and neighbors. It is imperative that big business stays out of Mass Access, and honestly the FCC lacks authority to impair private franchise contracts. And Section 622 of the Cable Act defines "Franchise Fees" and the FCC has no right to redefine. And any attempt to redefine "Franchise Fees" weakens the authority of local municipalities. Honestly it's just another way big business can come in and rule the airwaves, but making local media inaccessible to the local people.

Community media stations allow the residents of Stoughton- Norfolk County, to watch and create uniquely local programming about their community and local events and issues of interest to them. Such was the intent of the PEG provisions of the 1984 Cable Act – to enhance local voices, serve local community needs and interests, and strengthen our local democracy. By defining "franchise fee" in an overly broad fashion to include "in-kind" support, the FCC's proposals will shift the fair balance between cable franchising authorities and cable operators and will force communities to choose between franchise fees and PEG channels, – something that was never the intent of the Act.

We appreciate your consideration and hope you will protect PEG channels in our community and others by choosing not to adopt many of the proposals in the Further Notice.

Sincerely,
Amanda Koker