

Comments to FCC RE: MB 15-43 & MM 15-71

I Am working on a STELA response to FCC. I think the best we ( in Garrett County MD) with Sat TV can ask for now is: Each home with Cable or Sat TV having a personal choice to stay with Pittsburgh DMA local TV or request to be put on the Balt/DC area DMA. This should work for DirecTV & Dish Network. As DirecTV provides Allegany, Washington & Prince Georges all have same 15 local channels it should work for Garrett County. I haven't checked for Dish Network. Garrett County local Cable companies may not be able to do this! WHAG would be a natural to ask for , but did not find in DirecTV listing! WHAG says they are on Dish Network.

Based on review of matrix data of DirecTV service to MD Western & Central Counties & my belief getting individual TV channels on board for GC will not be an answer to getting Pittsburgh & DC/Balt area channels for GC. I think it's really getting the Cable or Sat TV service on board rather than convincing individual TV stations to join our GC TV listing.

\* Even if individual DC/Balt area TV channels were convinced to be broadcast to GC, it's really up to CableTV or Sat TV provider to say yes. Also its likely there will be an additional charge, as the providers now supply only one Network TV channel to a subscriber (exception is PBS). IE, I don't see a solution with a mix of Pittsburgh & DC/Balt TV channels There is however a possibility of a DirecTV plan called "Neighboring Local Channels". It likely will carry an additional subscriber charge. It presently shows no GC ability.

\* I think its come down to FCC allowing the providers to let the Orphan County subscribers choosing either Pittsburgh or the Bat/DC area set of channels . IE, opt out of present Pittsburg DMA for their service & ability to choose on any new subscriber in GC. DirecTV likely should allow at least a 30 day grace trial period on a switch to DC/Balt which can be switched back to Pittsburgh if the customer so wants.

\* Note, All other MD Counties East of GC ,including DC area get same 15 local TV chanel.\*