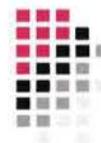




217 Pleasant St.  
Marblehead, MA 01945  
781-631-8213  
[www.marbleheadtv.org](http://www.marbleheadtv.org)



March 30, 2016

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Promoting the Availability of Diverse and Independent Sources of Video (DN 16-41)

Dear Ms. Dortch:

I am writing on behalf of Marblehead Community Access and Media, Inc., which runs MHTV, the Public Access TV channel that serves the Town of Marblehead, MA. We produce and televise hyper-local news, cover municipal meetings, Town events & High School sports, as well as provide training in video production to residents ages 8 – 80.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide information for the FCC's inquiry,

The FCC asks the following questions regarding Public, Educational and Government Access channels in the inquiry:

“We seek comment on MVPD’s practices with respect to making PEG programming information available to subscribers. To the extent that MVPDs do not make this information available, is this for technical reasons, and if so, can the technical barriers be surmounted? Is the Congressionally-imposed prohibition against editorial control of PEG channels relevant to this issue? What is the source of the Commission’s authority in this area, if any?”

We make our schedules available through the local weekly newspaper, and on our website, but it seems that most of our viewers make their programming choices on the “spur of the moment”, while scrolling through their cable program guide. As a result, viewers are constantly asking us why our programming schedule is not listed – mostly after they have missed an MHTV program that is important to them – whether it be a public affairs issue, a sporting event, or even a grandchild’s appearance on our award-winning children’s show.

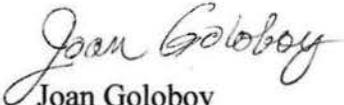
Having our information available on the IPG would greatly help keep citizens informed about the unique programming choices that public access offers. In turn, it seems that cable companies are devaluing this important asset that can help them retain subscribers, during a period of disruption in the industry.

As important as we feel that our channel is to the community, the technical quality of MHTV is, in our opinion substandard. Simply put, our channel does not look or sound as good as the other channels on our cable systems. As we have migrated most of our production to HD, it only makes sense that we, as a "cable-only" channel, should look and sound HD. Again, it appears that public access is being devalued by lack of HD distribution, and we feel that carriage on an HD channel is critical to maintaining viewership and subscribership.

We are willing to invest in upgrading our playback server to meet appropriate standards, when the opportunity for HD distribution becomes a reality.

We appreciate the opportunity to enter this information into the record.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joan Goloboy".

Joan Goloboy  
Executive Director  
Marblehead Community Access & Media, Inc  
MHTV