

This communication is in reply to comments made by the Alliance for Community Media and various community media and PEG access groups. These comments have accurately and comprehensively described the impediments PEG access organizations face through practices common to the cable TV industry.

Access Monterey Peninsula (AMPmedia) operates five community TV channels serving the Monterey County California area, including one public access channel, one independent media channel and three government access channels. Our primary concern is the fact that, despite our ability to deliver high definition (HD) signals, Comcast and AT&T UVerse will only provide carriage on standard definition channels. This creates a significant disadvantage which negatively affects the desire of viewers to watch our channels. The result is de facto discrimination against AMP and the programming we present on behalf of the community.

We also agree with others' comments regarding difficulty or inability to show programming schedules on set-top boxes, creating a major impediment for viewers to be able to watch community-based programming.

We assert that the Commission should take steps to require the carriage of HD provided by PEG and other local stations on HD channels. Also, cable TV companies should be required to proactively work with PEG and other local programmers to facilitate schedule information being available to viewers.