

# Access Humboldt

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March 31, 2009

Ms. Marilyn Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> St SW  
Washington, DC 20554

RE: Docket 09-13 Public, Educational and Governmental (PEG) Access Channels, Alliance for Community Media CRS-8126, the City of Lansing, Michigan CSR-8127 and the City of Dearborn, Michigan CSR-8128

We ask the FCC to preserve local PEG Channels by granting the petitions of the Alliance for Community Media CRS-8126, the City of Lansing, Michigan CSR-8127 and the City of Dearborn, Michigan CSR-8128. Granting these petitions will stop the harmful acts by AT&T, Comcast and others that are making PEG channels less accessible to the public.

In our communities of the Redwood Coast, including the County of Humboldt and the Cities of Eureka, Arcata, Fortuna, Rio Dell, Ferndale and Blue Lake, in California PEG access channels provide most of our local TV content, including primary sources for public safety, health, education, civic, and cultural life.

AT&T's system degrades PEG channels depriving their viewers of: channel surfing capability; closed captioning; second audio program; and, timed DVR recording capability. PEG offerings are invisible to viewers due to AT&T excluding PEG schedule information from program listings and channel guides.

Our community programming is important and we depend on PEG channels for local perspective. PEG channels must be treated with the same quality and care as broadcast and out-of town satellite channels. Our community fairly negotiated cable TV franchises that provided for local channels and support. We need and expect those channels to be here now and in the future.

We ask the FCC to act now to preserve the intent of Congress and grant all three petitions.

Sincerely,

-- signed --

Sean McLaughlin, Executive Director



"Local Voices Through Community Media  
Engage – Connect – Educate"

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