

**Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20554**

In the Matter of

Annual Assessment of the Status of
Competition in the Market for the
Delivery of Video Programming

MB Docket No. 12-203

**COMMENTS OF
Access Fort Wayne**

Access Fort Wayne submits these comments in response to the above-captioned Notice of Inquiry (“NOI”), released July 20, 2012, seeking “data, information, and comment on the state of competition in the delivery of video programming.”

Access Fort Wayne is an independent non-profit 501(c)(4) organization and a department of the Allen County Public Library that runs the community media center for the city of Fort Wayne and all of Allen County in Allen County Indiana. We provide all the necessary operational support for functioning community media. We provide physical space, staff, contemporary production equipment, volunteers, broad multimedia training and media literacy training.

1. Comcast and Frontier provide three cable channels for use by AFW.
2. These channels are placed on the lowest tier of cable provided. If residents only have analog television sets they require a digital converter box to receive this basic service.
3. There are no more and no less channels carried since June of 2010.

4. Comcast does allow for distribution of our programming schedule for one of the three channels on the system's on-screen program guide, but not for our other two channels of which one is the local government access channel. Frontier (formerly Verizon FIOS) does not allow for our programming schedule. Residents can navigate to our web site to view our programming schedule and our local newspaper (Journal Gazette) provides the program listings for only one of our public access channels.

5. We are not in an AT&T U-Verse community.

6. PEG programming in Allen County has continued to increase dramatically since its inception here in 1981. We have expanded in a variety of ways as our community has changed as we now carry programming in English, Spanish and Burmese since Fort Wayne boasts the second largest Burmese community in the United States. The government access programming has increased significantly since we began operation of the channel for the City of Fort Wayne in 1996. Access Fort Wayne was instrumental in the evolution and functionality of the two educational access channels in our community that are now operated by Fort Wayne Community Schools and Indiana University Purdue University in Fort Wayne. Indiana passed their state franchising law in March of 2006 and it has negatively impacted us from a fiscal standpoint and has caused the elimination of many of our colleagues within the state as their channels have "faded to black" because of funding cuts and the closing of facilities by Comcast in direct relation to the passage of the state video franchising law. Access Fort Wayne has lost virtually all of its capital monies because of the Indiana state franchising law, which has left us unable to replace most of our equipment as it breaks down. Without those replacement dollars, we will only be able to sustain our operations at a minimal level and not be able to expand our services to our growing community.

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