

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

In the Matter of )  
 )  
Annual Assessment of the Status of ) MB Docket No. 12-203  
Competition in the Market for the )  
Delivery of Video Programming )

**COMMENTS OF  
COMMUNITY ACCESS PARTNERS OF SAN BUENAVENTURA**

**Community Access Partners of San Buenaventura (CAPS)** 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.”

CAPS serves as the local voice for public, educational and governmental cable channels in the City of Ventura, operating two channels 24/7/365. CAPS also provides digital media training for youth in the community, with both fee-based programs and on a pro-bono basis to economically challenged residents.

CAPS provides training, equipment and facilities so that local community members can participate in electronic media. With state franchising preempting local negotiations, authority and oversight of cable operators, CAPS is the last PEG Community Media Center operating in western Ventura County.

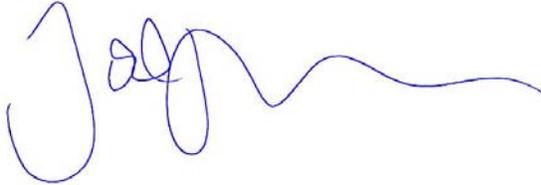
Since January 1, 2012, CAPS and community producers have generated more than 833 program titles comprising more than 1,000 hours of unique local content. This includes programs about the arts, religion, civic and community content as well as a variety of municipal meetings. In a city with no local television broadcast – the nearest broadcasters are in Los Angeles – CAPS is the only local non-commercial television available to our community. We are currently in production with our sixth edition of Video Voter programming, providing the only televised non-partisan candidate and initiative coverage in the area.

With regard to competition in video program delivery, Ventura is in an interesting situation in that we’ve had two cable operators for decades, who have chosen to maintain geographic service area separation and have specifically chosen not to compete. The third entrant to the market, AT&T, has only built out in a small area of new construction, and has not, to date, pursued carriage of PEG channels in violation of federal law. Additionally, we have concerns regarding the technical inferiority of the AT&T U-Verse scheme both in resolution and bit rate. Additionally, CAPS programming delivers V-Chip, SAP and closed-captioning data to the viewer, which is not currently supported by U-Verse despite F.C.C. requirements to do so. It

should also be noted that the Alliance for Community Media has had pending petition before the F.C.C. for more than two years on these issues. We would urge action as soon as possible.

As the national consolidation of media continues, Community Media Centers and the PEG channels and other resources they provide to their communities are the only truly local media available to many citizens. The F.C.C. must act to protect the local community interest in access to electronic media.

Respectfully Submitted ,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Todd Thayer', with a long, wavy horizontal line extending to the right.

Todd Thayer  
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