

RESOLUTION NO. _____

**A RESOLUTION CONCERNING THE COMMENCEMENT OF PROCEEDING FOR
IDENTIFYING FUTURE CABLE-RELATED COMMUNITY NEEDS AND INTERESTS
AND REVIEWING THE PERFORMANCE OF THE CABLE OPERATOR PURSUANT
TO 47 U.S.C. § 546**

WHEREAS, Comcast of Virginia, Inc. (“Comcast”), a Delaware limited liability company, currently has a franchise within the City of Alexandria, Virginia with an effective date of October 25, 2011 (the “Franchise”); and

WHEREAS, the Franchise has a renewal provision which expires on October 25, 2021; and

WHEREAS, by letter dated March 6, 2019, Comcast has submitted a written renewal notice, as permitted by 47 U.S.C. § 546, formally requesting that the Franchise be renewed; and

WHEREAS, 47 U.S.C. § 546 provides that, not later than six months after the submission of such a request, a franchising authority must commence a proceeding for the purpose of identifying future cable-related community needs and interests, and reviewing the performance of the cable operator under the Franchise; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Virginia Code §15.2-2108.20 and § 9-3-1 et seq of the City Code of the City of Alexandria, as amended, the City is the franchising authority; and

WHEREAS, the City’s Franchise provides that the City and Comcast may mutually agree to extend the Franchise for two additional five (5) year terms; and

WHEREAS, the City wishes to commence the proceeding required by 47 U.S.C. § 546; and

WHEREAS, the Council also wishes to give City staff initial guidance regarding the planning and conduct of the renewal proceeding;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of Alexandria, Virginia:

1. That a proceeding for the purpose of identifying future cable-related community needs and interests and reviewing the performance of Comcast under the Franchise is hereby commenced; and
2. That the City Manager and the City Attorney are authorized to take the steps necessary to conduct such a proceeding in accordance with applicable law, subject to the oversight of Council.

3. (a). That the Office of the City Attorney and City staff shall jointly develop a plan for identifying future cable-related community needs and interests and reviewing the performance of Comcast, in accordance with the formal renewal process described in 47 U.S.C.546 (a)-(e) (the "Assessment Plan"). The Assessment Plan may include the retention of outside technical consultants to assist in: (i) identifying the community's future cable-related needs and interests; (ii) evaluating Comcast's compliance with the Franchise; and (iii) evaluating the condition of Comcast's system in the City. City staff shall be responsible for implementing the Assessment Plan, with the assistance, advice, and participation of the Office of the City Attorney.

4. The Office of the City Attorney and City staff shall jointly develop and implement a plan for conducting informal negotiations with Comcast, as permitted by 47 U.S.C. 546(b). The City Attorney shall be responsible for implementing negotiations with the assistance advice and participation of City staff.

This Resolution shall be effective immediately upon passage.

ADOPTED: _____

JUSTIN M. WILSON, MAYOR

ATTEST:

Gloria Sitton, City Clerk