

CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139
Tel. 498-9011

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
ROBERT W. HEALY
City Manager

April 18, 1984

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

I am pleased to announce that on Wednesday, April 18, 1984, the City of Cambridge received initial applications, the State Form 100, from applicants interested in providing cable television service for the City.

On February 6, 1984, in accordance with Massachusetts State regulations, we initiated the licensing process which will make cable TV a reality in Cambridge. Four applicants responded to our request for proposals. They are:

Cambridge Consumer-Owned Telecommunications, Inc.
Cambridge Cablevision Corporation
American Cable Systems
Cablevision of Cambridge

The next step in the process will be a comparative review of each initial application. Thereafter, the City will release the Issuing Authority Report (IAR) which documents the City's system specifications. Applicants will then be allowed to amend their initial applications based on these specifications. The date for the release of the IAR will be announced within the next two weeks.

We are very pleased at the response the City has received and we would like to thank all of the applicants for their interest in Cambridge. We feel, as we have all along, that a completely open and competitive process benefits everyone, especially the residents of Cambridge, and we will continue to pursue such a process up to and beyond the signing of a final license.

Copies of the initial applications will be available for public examination at the Main and Central Square Branch Libraries and at the City Clerk's Office at City Hall.

CABLE PROCESS UPDATE

APRIL 12, 1984

The cable licensing process in Massachusetts differs significantly from the process used by most other states.

The Massachusetts process offers municipalities the opportunity to shop around a bit in a two-stage approach.

STATE FORM 100 (First stage)

Very simply, applicants file a state mandated form (Form 100) in which they answer questions concerning:

business structure	proposed programming
ownership	services
rates	system design
construction costs	finances

Although cable companies will often supply much more information than is required, even a perfunctory response to Form 100 will give the City a good idea of the nature of the applicant, its level of thought, and basic philosophy.

The City then has a chance to carefully review each of these initial applications prior to the issuance of the Issuing Authority Report. (RFP)*

ISSUING AUTHORITY REPORT (RFP, Second stage)

In this, the second stage of the process, the City will release its Issuing Authority Report (RFP), a document outlining the City's specifications and basic requirements for the cable system.

Applicants are asked to respond to the IAR by amending their initial applications to more closely conform to the City's specifications.

The IAR is a carefully crafted document which greatly expands on questions and issues dealt with in the initial applications.

* In many other states, the document "Issuing Authority Report" is known as the Request for Proposals or simply, RFP.

The IAR asks very specific questions and demands detailed responses to the following:

hiring of minorities, women, and residents-
training - local procurement practices-
consumer complaint and repair procedures-
protection of subscriber privacy

The IAR also goes into great detail on services and issues such as:

community programming - public access -
educational programming - rates - finances

In short, State Form 100 will give Cambridge an outline sketch of each proposed system; the responses to the IAR will produce an architectural blueprint.

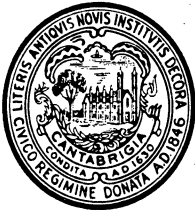
The following is a listing of the types of information requested in Form 100 and the Issuing Authority Report.

FORM 100

Applicant identification
Local information (areas served)
Services
Rates
Technical information
Applicant and ownership information
Transfer or assignment (of license)
Financial pro formas
Profit and loss funds flow
Balance sheet
Other communication interests
Officers and directors
(ownership interests)

ISSUING AUTHORITY REPORT

Applicant identification and affidavit
Ownership, control, character, and
lobbying information
Administration and regulations
Employment practices
Procurement practices
Consumer complaint and repair procedures
Bonds, insurance and indemnification
Protection of subscriber privacy
Proposed signal carriage and
channel allocation
Public access
Local origination
Institutional network
Municipal services
Subscriber services
Financial proformas
Local investment opportunities
Construction and service schedule
System design



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EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
ROBERT W. HEALY
City Manager

April 23, 1984

To the Honorable, the City Council:

As you are all aware, the Cable Licensing Process is well underway. Initial applications have been received by the City from the following applicants on April 18:

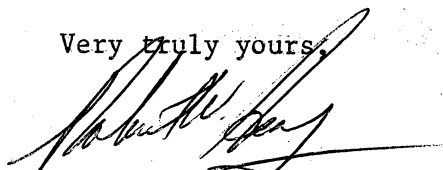
Cambridge Consumer-Owned Telecommunications, Inc.
Cambridge Cablevision Corporation
American Cablesystems
Cablevision of Cambridge

A comparative review of these initial applications will be made by the City's Consultant and the Advisory Committee.

In the coming weeks much attention will be given to the finalization of the Issuing Authority Report (the IAR - often referred to as the RFP). In that regard, I have asked Jean Rice, the City's Consultant, to be in Cambridge on April 26 and 27 to meet with Council members in order to ascertain the individual concerns for a cable system in Cambridge from each Councillor. The Office of Cable Television will be contacting each Council member in order to arrange meetings on those dates.

Copies of the initial applications will be made available in the Council Office.

Very truly yours,



Robert W. Healy
City Manager

RWH/b

Agenda Item Number Five

5-272
Re: receipt of initial applications and
future steps in the Cable Licensing Process.

In City Council,

April 23, 1984

4/23/84

Placed on File