

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

1997 Legislative Session

Resolution No. CR-48-1997

Proposed by The Chairman (by request - County Executive)

Introduced by Council Member Bailey

Co-Sponsors

Date of Introduction July 22, 1997

RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION concerning

Cable Franchises

For the purpose of extending the existing Cable Franchise Agreements between Jones Cable and Prince George's County, Maryland (the "County").

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 5A-102 of the Prince George's County Code, the County Council has established the boundaries of a Northern and Southern territory for the grant of franchises for the operation of cable television systems within the County; and

WHEREAS, by Council Bill 168-1981, the County Council authorized the County to enter into an agreement with MetroVision of Prince George's County, Inc., ("MetroVision") for the installation, operation and maintenance of a cable television system in the Southern Franchise Area of the County; and

WHEREAS, by Council Bill 166 -1981, the County Council authorized the County to enter into an agreement with Storer Communications of Maryland, Inc., ("Storer") for the installation, operation and maintenance of a cable television system in the Northern Franchise Area of the County; and

WHEREAS, the County granted a franchise to MetroVision to operate and maintain a cable television system in the Southern Franchise Area of the County pursuant to a Franchise Agreement dated July 1, 1982; and

WHEREAS, the County granted a franchise to Storer to operate and maintain a cable television system in the Northern Franchise Area of the County pursuant to a Franchise Agreement dated July 15, 1982; and

WHEREAS, the County approved the transfer of the Northern Franchise from Storer to Maryland Cable Corporation, from Maryland Cable Corporation to Maryland Cable Holdings Corporation, from Maryland Cable Holdings Corporation to Maryland Cable Partners, and from Maryland Cable Partners to Jones Communications of Maryland, Inc. ("JCM")(a wholly owned subsidiary of Jones Cable Holdings, Inc. ("JCH")); and

WHEREAS, the County approved the transfer of the Southern Franchise from Metro-Vision to the Time Warner Entertainment-Advance/Newhouse ("TWEAN") and from TWEAN to JCH, and, ultimately, to JCM; and

WHEREAS the Franchise for the Southern Franchise Area of the County is currently scheduled to expire on July 1, 1997, and the Franchise for the Northern Franchise Area of the County is scheduled to expire on July 15, 1997, and the County will therefore have to consider whether to renew these Franchises or enter into new agreements with different cable providers; and

WHEREAS, recent changes in the Federal communications law necessitate a detailed review of the existing franchises and future options available to the County and applicable municipalities therein prior to the approval of new franchises by the County Council; and

WHEREAS, the County expects to complete its detailed review and submit proposed franchise agreements for the Southern and Northern Franchise Areas by November 1, 1997; and

WHEREAS, it is important that cable service continues to be available to the residents of Prince George's County during the detailed preparation and review of new franchise agreements by the County;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The Franchise originally awarded to Storer and transferred to JCM for the Northern Franchise Area, on file in the Office of the Clerk of the Council, and incorporated herein by reference, is hereby extended until March 1, 1998.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Franchise originally awarded to MetroVision and transferred to JCM for the Southern Franchise Area, on file in the Office of the Clerk to

the Council, and incorporated herein by reference, is hereby extended until March 1, 1998.

Adopted this 22nd day of July, 1997.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE
GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

BY:

Dorothy F. Bailey
Chair

ATTEST:

Joyce T. Sweeney
Clerk of the Council