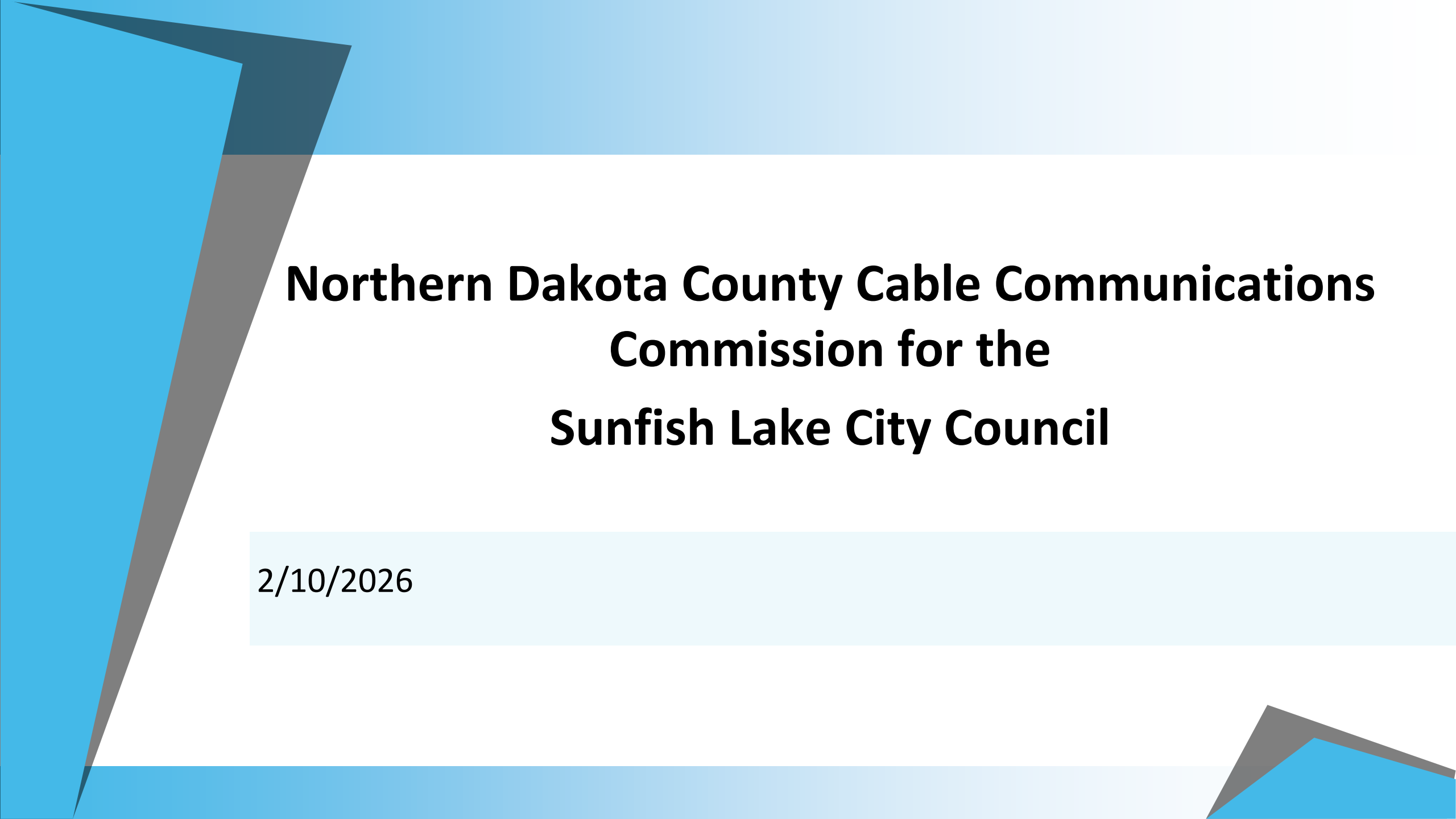




Northern Dakota County Cable Communications Commission for the Sunfish Lake City Council

2/10/2026

NDC4 Member City Benefits

- ◆ Negotiate and manage cable TV franchises
- ◆ Cable TV (& Telecomm) expertise, regulation & compliance
- ◆ Broadband-related Topics
- ◆ Negotiating power of cities as consortium
- ◆ Pooled resources-community programming
- ◆ Communications tools for cities
- ◆ Central studio and facilities for citizen use
- ◆ LOCAL customer service office for cable subscribers
- ◆ Federal and state advocacy, FCC, Congress, legislature

NDC4 Member City Benefits

- ◆ Government programming
 - City Council, boards, commissions, parks, police, fire, events
 - Election coverage, candidate forums, “Meet the Candidates”
 - State of the City
- ◆ Education programming (local K-12 & colleges)
 - Meetings, graduations, scholarships, music, arts, sports
- ◆ *INSIGHT 7* LOCAL news magazine Sports, multi-faith, city festivals and parades
- ◆ Public Access and Podcasting training and facilities
- ◆ IT / Technical support for city staff

Current Financial Situation

- ◆ Cable subscribers continue to decline.
- ◆ 2025 Legislative efforts to allow cities to charge franchise fees for broadband providers were not successful.
- ◆ New mandated Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG), including captioning, descriptive text for all meaningful images and keyboard navigation are required by 4/2027.
- ◆ Enhanced Web Streaming support and costs.
- ◆ Expanded technical support for Cities video and web streaming.
- ◆ Expanded expectations from member communities for programming, livestreaming and program downloads.

NDC4 Finances

Settlement Payment				\$ 111,900		
Interest Income	\$ 8,949	\$ 2,734	\$ 1,418	\$ 2,020	\$ 16,941	\$ 10,399
Video & Web Stream Reimbursement	\$ 42,007	\$ 45,670	\$ 46,660	\$ 51,460	\$ 79,958	\$ 10,090
Total Revenues	\$ 1,076,313	\$ 1,072,628	\$ 1,093,256	\$ 1,177,719	\$ 1,032,161	\$ 893,866
Member Cities	\$ 256,339	\$ 256,056	\$ 261,294	\$ 274,086	\$ 116,907	\$ 51,875
NDC Personnel	\$ 473,947	\$ 521,255	\$ 545,607	\$ 606,340	\$ 636,844	\$ 626,788
Operating Expenses	\$ 345,820	\$ 295,316	\$ 286,280	\$ 296,565	\$ 270,709	\$ 241,301
Total Op Expenses	\$ 1,076,106	\$ 1,072,627	\$ 1,093,181	\$ 1,176,991	\$ 1,024,460	\$ 919,964
Operating Net Income	\$ 207	\$ 1	\$ 75	\$ 728	\$ 7,701	\$ (26,098)

Fiscal Years 2025 & 2026

Franchise Fee Payments

Total Comcast Franchise Fees 2024 \$ 935,260
 Total Comcast Franchise Fees 2025 \$ 873,377

City	% of sucscribers	4/3/2024	4/2/2025 (for 2024) 12.5%	Projected 2026 (for 2025) 6.25%
Inver Grove Heights	39.80%	\$ 105,047	\$ 48,044	\$ 20,646
Lilydale	2.88%	\$ 5,381	\$ 2,323	\$ 1,492
Mendota	0.21%	\$ 467	\$ 188	\$ 110
Mendota Heights	19.55%	\$ 49,584	\$ 23,708	\$ 10,142
South St. Paul	16.62%	\$ 43,767	\$ 18,853	\$ 8,620
Sunfish Lake	0.97%	\$ 2,053	\$ 1,004	\$ 502
West St. Paul	<u>19.98%</u>	<u>\$ 54,530</u>	<u>\$ 22,787</u>	<u>\$ 10,362</u>
	100.00%	\$ 260,830	\$ 116,907	\$ 51,875

This report contains TRADE SECRET information from Comcast.

NDC4 Request...

NDC4 Member Cities approve a Memorandum of Understanding for 2027-2030 fiscal years

- Reduce Cities negotiated FF% 6.25% share for 2026FY (paid in 2027)
 - Member Cities receive 5 % of actual Franchise Fees
 - NDC4 Cable Commission use 95% for operating & reserves
- Reduce FF% to Cities to zero for the balance of the MOU- 2030
 - 2027 (paid in 2028) 0%
 - 2028 (paid in 2029) 0%
 - 2029 (paid in 2030) 0%
 - 2030 (paid in 2031) 0%

NDC4 & TST Plans to fill the gap

1. Shifting focus to generate primary Town Square Television (non-profit) funding to:
 - Grants- developing a new grant strategy
 - Sponsorships, donations and TST memberships
 - Promotion of stand-alone video production services.
2. Evaluating all expenses and cutting when necessary
3. Collaborating with other PEG – Community TV organizations
4. Continuing support of legislative efforts to modernize funding for ROW & PEG programming

Next steps

- ◆ Approve the revised MOU
- ◆ NDC4 acceptance at next Commission meeting
- ◆ Continue to communicate progress on new initiatives and funding status
- ◆ Any other suggestions?



Thank you for your time and support
of NDC4 and Town Square Television!

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

This Memorandum of Understanding (“MOU”) is by and between Northern Dakota County Cable Communications Commission (“Commission”) and the cities of Inver Grove Heights, Lilydale, Mendota, Mendota Heights, South St. Paul, Sunfish Lake, and West St. Paul, Minnesota (“Member Municipalities”) (each individually a “Party” and collectively referred to as the “Parties”).

RECITALS:

1. The Commission is governed by the Amended Joint and Cooperative Agreement adopted by the Member Municipalities (“JPA”); and
2. In the fall of 2020, the Member Municipalities each adopted an ordinance granting a cable franchise to Comcast of St. Paul, Inc. (“Comcast”) for a ten (10) year term that obligates Comcast to submit a franchise fee of five percent (5%) of its quarterly gross cable service revenues.
3. Article X, Section 5 of the JPA provides that the Commission shall collect all franchise fees paid by Comcast and shall annually pay (payment remitted in April of the following year) the Member Municipalities twenty-five percent (25%) of the franchise fees received by the Commission (“Annual Contribution”); and
4. The number of Comcast cable subscribers in the Member Municipalities continues to decrease, resulting in lower franchise fee payments received by the Commission; and
5. As of April 2024, the Commission is subject to newly mandated Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (“WCAG”), including captioning, descriptive text for all meaningful images, and keyboard navigation; and
6. The Commission must comply with such WCAG by April 2026; and
7. The Commission is expected to expand and enhance technical support for video and web streaming for residents in the Member Municipalities; and
8. The Member Municipalities recognize that the Commission may require significant resources to expand accessibility in accordance with the WCAG and enhance technical support, programming, livestreaming, and download capabilities within all Member Municipalities; and
9. The Parties further desire to reduce the Annual Contribution to further assist the Commission; and
10. This MOU has been negotiated in good faith by the Parties.

NOW THEREFORE, the Commission and the Member Municipalities agree as follows:

1. This MOU shall become effective on December 1, 2025.
2. The Annual Contribution set forth in Article X. Section 5 of the JPA shall be reduced as follows:

- a. 6.25% for 2025 (received by the Member Municipalities in April 2026);
 - b. 5% for 2026 (received by the Member Municipalities in April 2027);
 - c. 0% for 2027 (received by the Member Municipalities in April 2028);
 - d. 0% for 2028 (received by the Member Municipalities in April 2029); and
 - e. 0% for 2029 (received by the Member Municipalities in April 2030); and
 - f. 0% for 2030 (received by the Member Municipalities in April 2031).
3. This MOU will be governed by and interpreted and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Minnesota.
4. This MOU may be amended at any time by written agreement between the Parties.
5. This MOU may be executed in counterparts, each of which is deemed an original, but all of which together are deemed to be one and the same agreement. A signed copy of this MOU delivered by e-mail or other means of electronic transmission is deemed to have the same legal effect as delivery of an original signed copy of this MOU.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this MOU has been executed by the duly authorized representatives of the Parties as set forth below.

Signature page to follow.

**NORTHERN DAKOTA COUNTY
CABLE COMMUNICATION COMMISSION**

By: _____
Mickey Kieffer, Chair

Dated: _____, 2025

CITY OF INVER GROVE HEIGHTS

By: _____

Printed Name: _____

Title: _____

Dated: _____, 2025

CITY OF LILYDALE

By: _____

Printed Name: _____

Title: _____

Dated: _____, 2025

CITY OF MENDOTA

By: _____

Printed Name: _____

Title: _____

Dated: _____, 2025

CITY OF MENDOTA HEIGHTS

By: _____

Printed Name: _____

Title: _____ Mayor

Dated: _____, 2025

By: _____

Printed Name: _____

Title: _____ City Clerk

Dated: _____, 2025

CITY OF SOUTH ST. PAUL

By: _____

Printed Name: _____

Title: _____

Dated: _____, 2025

CITY OF SUNFISH LAKE

CITY OF WEST ST. PAUL

By: _____

By: _____

Printed Name: _____

Printed Name: _____

Title: _____

Title: _____

Dated: _____, 2025

Dated: _____, 2025