

# WAVE CABLE TELEVISION FRANCHISE RENEWAL

July 2017



POWERFUL TECHNOLOGY SOLUTIONS  
FOR THE CITY AND PUBLIC WE SERVE



**Seattle**  
Information Technology

# KEY FACTS

## Renewal

- Franchise expires November 17, 2017
- Renewal requires Council approval
- City cannot require, but can negotiate, broadband-related benefits
- City and Wave negotiated new franchise terms and side letter agreement
- 10-year franchise
- Current legislation limited to franchise renewal

# KEY FACTS

## **New Development: Request for Transfer**

- Wave is being acquired by TPG Capital
  - Requested a franchise transfer to Radiate Holdings L.P., which is majority owned and operated by TPG Capital
  - TPG owns other cable systems, RCN and Grande Communications
  - Will become the nation's sixth largest cable operator
  - Deal is expected to close in 2017
- Wave brand will continue to be used in Seattle
- Office of Cable Communications is conducting legal, technical, and financial review required by SMC 21.60.110
- Proposed transfer will require separate Council approval

# FRANCHISE BENEFITS

- Low-income cable television discounts
- Complimentary cable service to schools and City buildings
- Support for Public, Educational, and Government (PEG) channels including new PEG fee
- PEG signal quality comparable to commercial channels
- Seattle Channel content on video on demand
- Promotional assistance for Seattle Channel

# FRANCHISE BENEFITS (SIDE LETTER)

- Doubled number of complimentary internet service to City and non profits
- New internet discount program for residents who qualify for City's Utility Discount Program
- Public Wi-Fi at two sites along 23<sup>rd</sup> Avenue



# PROPOSED FRANCHISE SCHEDULE

- **July 11- Legislation Transmitted to Council**
- **July 17-** Legislation introduced to Council (on referral calendar)
- **July 19** - Initial Committee Briefing
- **July 19** - City Clerk publishes notice of the August 2 public hearing in Seattle Times and other outlets
- **July 17– July 28** - Clerk publishes franchise ordinance for 10 consecutive press days on City's official paper (DJC)
- **August 2** – Public Hearing Council Chambers 2:00 p.m.
- **September 6** – EEG Committee Briefing and possible Committee vote
- **September 11** – Possible Full Council vote
- **September 15** - Mayor or his designee (CTO) signs legislation
- **October 15** - Franchise effective date (30 days from approval)

# THANK YOU

