

2011 - 2012 Statement of Legislative Intent

Approved

Tab	Action	Option	Version
37	1	A	1

Budget Action Title: Guidance to DoIT related to RFP to select cable television public access channel operator

Councilmembers: Clark; Harrell; Licata

Staff Analyst: Martha Lester

Budget Committee Vote:

Date	Result	SB	BH	SC	TR	JG	NL	RC	TB	MO
11/12/2010	Pass 9-	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

Statement of Legislative Intent:

The Mayor’s 2011-2012 Proposed Budget assumes a new model for providing public access television in Seattle. Under this new model, the Department of Information Technology (DoIT) will issue a Request for Proposals (RFP), inviting a variety of community and non-profit organizations to submit proposals to provide community digital media production services and to operate the public access cable television channels.

The City Council requests that DoIT, in issuing the RFP and evaluating proposals, seek a provider that will:

- provide outreach to individuals and groups that are currently using (or have recently used) SCAN (Seattle Community Access Network) facilities or equipment to produce public access television programs;
- embrace a goal that anyone who currently produces a show for public access television should be able to continue to do so;
- provide outreach to youth, communities of color, immigrant and refugee communities, and disadvantaged communities;
- provide education and training in video production, particularly for the groups listed above;
- make available studio space for videotaping (might be a small studio that could be operated by one or two people);
- make available space for post-production activities such as editing, adding graphics or music, etc.;
- reduce or waive fees to assist low-income residents in producing shows;
- lend equipment for producing videos; and
- express a commitment to local programming on the public access channels.

The Council requests that members of the Citizens Telecommunications and Technology Advisory Board (CTTAB) be involved in developing the RFP, evaluating proposals, and making a recommendation to the Director of DoIT.

The Council requests that one of the criteria that DoIT uses to evaluate proposals be the degree to which the proposer can generate significant non-City revenue from sources such as other governments, grants, donations, fees for services or earned income, etc.

The Council further requests that DoIT brief the Energy, Technology, and Civil Rights Committee (a) before issuing the RFP, so that Councilmembers can provide input and guidance; and (b) before executing a contract with the selected entity. If DoIT issues a "Request for Comment" or similar document in the process of developing an RFP, DoIT should similarly brief the Council committee during that process.

The Council encourages DoIT to move as quickly as possible while still allowing ample input, so as to get public access television under the new model in place as early in 2011 as is practicable.

Responsible Council Committee(s): Energy Technology and Civil Rights

Date Due to Council: