

Some Background Information Concerning Town-Specific Access Television:

Cablevision of Southern Connecticut (CV) is the cable provider for Area 2 (Fairfield, Bridgeport, Stratford, Milford, Orange and Woodbridge). Besides cable television service, CV provides a separate, fiber-optic network known as the I-Net (Institutional Network) that connects town halls, schools, libraries, police and fire departments in our six towns as well as those in Area Nine (lower Fairfield County). Among its other possible uses, the I-Net serves as a means for towns and schools to send their town-specific programming to CV's head-end in Norwalk so it can be cablecast to cable subscribers within their town borders.

A typical way to send out programs on I-Net is with a multi-disc DVD player and/or a simple character generator connected to CV equipment already located at your send/receive site. The most common programs are DVD recordings of town or school board meetings, community events related to government or schools, and public service announcements. Community bulletin boards on computer or character generator are also typical. With a little work, a town-specific channel may also serve as a means to transmit emergency information quickly. You can call Jennifer Young, Director of Government Affairs, at CV (203-750-5614) for assistance in connecting to the I-Net with CV equipment. There is no charge and CV will assist you in this endeavor.

Procedures for Establishing a Town-Specific Access Channel: Legal Details:

As outlined in PA 08-159, you will need to make a formal request to take control of an access channel for your town. The request should be addressed to the community access provider of channels 77, 78, and 79, Sound View Community Media, Inc. in Bridgeport. We can provide sample letters used by some of our towns and schools.

When you receive a letter from Sound View granting the request, you are ready to send programming to the head end. You will need to contact the Director of Government Affairs at CV and request that the programming on your I-Net channel be sent to your town. You will need to provide (by mail or fax) a copy of your authorization from Sound View. It may take a few days for your programming to appear.

CAC prefers that you name a town-sanctioned access committee to be responsible for the filing of the grant application and receive all correspondence and awards. Examples of existing committees include Orange Government Access Television Committee, Woodbridge Government Television Access Commission, Milford Government Access Television Committee and Fairfield's FairTV Committee. Please enclose a letter stating this with the grant application (see application for requirements). Please feel free to contact CAC with further questions.

Sincerely,



Marlene Silverstein  
Grant Administrator  
newgelt@optonline.net

Enclosures (2)

cc: First Selectman Sheehy