Item #1
for the public record

BMA
Multicultural Channel
Comcast 937

April 27, 2015

To Whom It May Concern,

Let this be entered into the records, on behalf of BMA Cable Networks owners, staff and communities we serve. I present this notice in writing to thank the Ways and Means committee members and cable office staff who have been granted the authority to speak as the voice of our community to insure equitable service deployment, minority programming, economic opportunities. Thank you for your due diligence in crafting a new cable franchise agreement that attempts to works for the citizens of Minneapolis.

I submit support for BMA Cable Networks letters of record from;

Pastor Billy G. Russell President of the Minnesota Baptist Convention
Kelvin Quarles General Manager of KMOJ FM
Tracey Williams-Dillard Publisher Minnesota Spokesman Recorder News
Al McFarlane Publisher Insight News
Derrick Stevens former BMA intern and current production manager MPR The Current
Louis King President CEO Summit Academy OIC
Sharmaine Russell Coldwell Banker Real Estate Agent
Danami Champion Artist
Alfred Babington-Johnson President CEO Stairstep Foundation

and supporters in attendance and the tens of thousand BMA Cable networks audiences members who support BMA Cable Networks the only minority owned and operated service that provides local cultural specific programming for arts, music, education news and youth training opportunities since 1984 to communities not covered by local major media outlets.

Today we respectfully ask that this committee and city council use their authority as our community voice to insure equitable service deployment, minority programming, economic opportunities in building, marketing and the inclusion of BMA Cable networks within the ordinance for cable systems as a integral provision to granting an agreement within our city.

Regards,

Pete Rhodes
Founder/CEO

April 26, 2015

Greater Friendship Missionary Baptist Church
Pastor Billy G. Russell

To Whom It May Concern,

It has been brought to my attention that Qwest communications dba Centurylink is petitioning the City of Minneapolis to grant a cable franchise license for its Prism cable service. Although I am in support of broader competition, on behalf of Grater Friendship MBC and the Minnesota Baptist Convention , we submit my support for BMA Cable Networks.

This important minority owned and operated service has provided youth training opportunities, local cultural specific programming for arts, music, education and information and since 1984 to our communities not covered by local major media outlets.

I respectfully ask that this committee and city council use their authority as our community voice to insure equitable service deployment, minority programming, economic opportunities and the inclusion of BMA Cable networks as a integral provision to granting an agreement within our city.

Regards,

Billy G. Russell
Pastor/resident
Greater Friendship Missionary Baptist Church
Minnesota Baptist Convention

2600 East 38th Street, Minneapolis, MN 55406(612) 827-7928

Center for Communication and Development KMOJ-FM 89.9
2123 W Broadway Ave Minneapolis, MN 55411 * Phone: 612-377-0594 Fax: 612-377-6919 * kmojfm.com

April 27, 2015

To Whom It May Concern,

Let this be entered into the records, it has been brought to my attention that Qwest communications dba CenturyLink is petitioning the City of Minneapolis to grant a cable franchise license for its Prism cable service.

I submit my support for BMA Cable Networks a minority owned and operated service who has provided youth training opportunities, local cultural specific programming for arts, music, education and information and since 1984 to our communities no covered by local major media outlets.

As a member of the media also broadcasting to underserved communities, I respectfully ask that this committee and city council use their authority as our community voice to insure equitable service deployment, minority programming, economic opportunities and the inclusion of BMA Cable networks as an integral provision to granting an agreement within our city.

Regards

Kelvin Quarles
General Manager
KMOJ-FM
2123 W. Broadway Ave.
Suite 200
Minneapolis, MN 55401

MINNESOTA
PUBLIC RADIO®

April 27, 2015

To Whom It May Concern,

Let this be entered into the records, it has been brought to my attention that Qwest communications dba Centurylink is petitioning the City of Minneapolis to grant a cable franchise license for its Prism cable service.

I submit my support for BMA Cable Networks a minority owned and operated service who has provided youth training opportunities, local cultural specific programming for arts, music, education and information and since 1984 to our communities not covered by local major media outlets.

As a 16 year old youth in 1984, BMA known then as cable radio station CBLS, afforded me the opportunity to gain firsthand knowledge of music programming, radio production, voice over, on air training and other radio related experience. I recently celebrated ten years of service to Minnesota Public Radio where I serve as the production manager for their radio station 89.3 The Current.

I respectfully ask that this committee and city council use their authority as our community voice to insure equitable service deployment, minority programming, economic opportunities and the inclusion of BMA Cable networks as a integral provision to granting an agreement within our city.

Regards

Derrick Stevens

480 Cedar Street, St. Paul, MN 55010

SUMMIT ACADEMY OIC
Training for Life

April 27, 2015

To Whom It May Concern,

Let this be entered into the records, it has been brought to my attention that Qwest communications dba Centurylink is petitioning the City of Minneapolis to grant a cable franchise license for its Prism cable service.

I submit my support for BMA Cable Networks a minority owned and operated service who has provided youth training opportunities, local cultural specific programming for arts, music, education and information and since 1984 to our communities no covered by local major media outlets.

I respectfully ask that this committee and city council use their authority as our community voice to insure equitable service deployment, minority programming, economic opportunities and the inclusion of BMA Cable networks as a integral provision to granting an agreement within our city.

Regards,

Louis J. King II
President & CEO
Summit Academy OIC
935 Olson Memorial Highway
Minneapolis, MN 55405

COLDWELL BANKER
BURNET

3033 Excelsior Blvd Suite 100
Minneapolis, MN 55416
(612) 925-6766 Office (612) 432-8893 Cell
sdrussell@cbburnet.com
www.sharmezsellinglifestyles.net

April 27, 2015

To Whom It May Concern,

Let this be entered into the records, it has been brought to my attention that Qwest communications dba Centurylink is petitioning the City of Minneapolis to grant a cable franchise license for its Prism cable service.

I submit my support for BMA Cable Networks a minority owned and operated service who has provided youth training opportunities, local cultural specific programming for arts, music, education and information and since 1984 to our communities no covered by local major media outlets.

I respectfully ask that this committee and city council use their authority as our community voice to insure equitable service deployment, minority programming, economic opportunities and the inclusion of BMA Cable networks as a integral provision to granting an agreement within our city.

Regards

Sharmaine D Russell

Sharmaine D Russell
3033 Excelsior Blvd- Suite 100
Minneapolis, MN 55416

DANAMI

313.467.4631
danami@DanamiOnline.com

April 27, 2015

To Whom It May Concern,

Let this be entered into the records, it has been brought to my attention that Qwest communications d/b/a Centurylink is petitioning the City of Minneapolis to grant a cable franchise license for its Prism cable service.

I submit my support for BMA Cable Networks a minority owned and operated service who has provided youth training opportunities, local cultural specific programming for arts, music, education and information and since 1984 to our communities no covered by local major media outlets. The BMA Cable Network has been beneficial to my buisness as a musician by providing opportunities to be featured on TV which has expanded my audience reach.

I respectfully ask that this committee and city council use their authority as our community voice to insure equitable service deployment, minority programming, economic opportunities and the inclusion of BMA Cable networks as a integral provision to granting an agreement within our city.

Regards,

Danami - Maurice Champion

9 W 7th Place Apt. 341
Saint Paul, MN 55102

April 27, 2015

To Whom It May Concern,

Let this be entered into the records, it has been brought to my attention that Qwest communications dba Centurylink is petitioning the City of Minneapolis to grant a cable franchise license for its Prism cable service.

I submit my support for BMA Cable Networks a minority owned and operated service who has provided youth training opportunities, local cultural specific programming for arts, music, education and information and since 1984 to our communities no covered by local major media outlets.

I respectfully ask that this committee and city council use their authority as our community voice to insure equitable service deployment, minority programming, economic opportunities and the inclusion of BMA Cable networks as a integral provision to granting an agreement within our city.

Regards,

Publisher/CEO
Minnesota Spokesman-Recorder

Published by Spokesman-Recorder Publishing Co.
3744 Fourth Avenue South • P.O. Box 8558 • Minneapolis, Minnesota 55408-0558
Phone: (612) 827-4021 • FAX • (612) 827-0577
www.spokesman-recorder.com

Stairstep Foundation

VALUES, ENTERPRISE, COMMUNITY LIFE

April 27, 2015

To Whom It May Concern:

Let this be entered into the records: It has been brought to our attention that Qwest Communications, dba Centurylink, is petitioning the City of Minneapolis to grant a cable franchise license for its Prism cable service.

The Stairstep Foundation submits our support for BMA Cable Networks, a local minority owned and operated service who, since 1984 has provided our community with youth training opportunities, and culturally specific programming for arts, music, education and other information not covered by local major media outlets.

We respectfully ask that this committee and City Council use their authority, as our community voice, to ensure equitable service deployment, minority programming, economic opportunities, and the inclusion of BMA Cable networks as an integral provision to granting an agreement with our city.

Respectfully submitted,

A. Babington

Alfred Babington-Johnson
President & CEO

ABJ;sla

1404 14th Avenue North · Minneapolis, Minnesota 55411 · Alfred Babington-Johnson · President & Ceo
(Office) 612/521-3110 · (Fax) 612/521-3405 · www.stairstep.org

COUNCIL ON
ASIAN PACIFIC
MINNESOTANS
A STATE AGENCY SINCE 1985

The Honorable Blong Yang
350 S. 5th St., Room 307
Minneapolis, MN 55415

April 27, 2015

Dear Councilmember Yang,

Cable television, broadband connections, and the associated services provided through cable television provide critical connections for low income people to engage in the greater community, seek employment, develop skills through education, and take advantage of opportunities to thrive. For immigrants, these services offer crucial connections with family and resources.

As you consider an additional cable franchise for the city for Century Link, please take into account the specific needs of communities of color, low income communities, and immigrants. A new cable provider in the city does not create any benefit for people who cannot access or cannot afford the service. On behalf of the Asian and Pacific Islander communities in Minneapolis, I ask you to build into the franchise the requirements that the provider extend the system into low income neighborhoods to assure access and provide packages that are affordable to people with lower incomes. Requiring any new franchise holder to make their service available citywide will go a long way toward assuring that people of color do not fall further behind and will provide the entire city of Minneapolis with the benefits that come with competition.

Telecommunication connections are critical to the growth and future of our communities. Competition could help lower prices and expedite technology improvements. This, however, only works if the services are available where they are needed. We need you to make sure that the distribution of services is equitable.

Thank you,

Sia Her

Sia Her
Executive Director
Council on Asian Pacific Minnesotans

Centennial Office Building | 658 Cedar Street Suite 160, St. Paul, Minnesota 55155 Phone 651.757.1740 | Fax 651.297.8735 | www.capm.state.mn.us