

IMPACT STATEMENT

Legislation title: *Approve the Mt. Hood Cable Regulatory Commission FY 2021-22 Fund Budget (Ordinance)

Contact name: Elisabeth Perez, Community Technology Director

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Presenter name: Walle Brown, Commissioner, Portland appointee
Richard Roche, Commissioner, Portland appointee
Kory Murphy, Commissioner, Portland appointee
Rebecca Burrell, Open Signal Director of Strategy
Karim Hassanein, Open Signal Board Chair, Portland appointee

Purpose of proposed legislation and background information:

To approve the Mt. Hood Cable Regulatory Commission FY 2021-22 Fund Budget.

The City of Portland is a party to an intergovernmental agreement with Multnomah County and the cities of Gresham, Fairview, Troutdale, and Wood Village, dated December 24, 1992, as modified by subsequent amendments, creating the Mt. Hood Cable Regulatory Commission (“MHCRC”) for the purposes of:

- Advocating for and protecting the public interest in the regulation and development of cable communication systems;
- Monitoring and helping resolve cable subscribers' concerns; and,
- Facilitating the planning and implementation of community uses of cable communication technologies.

The MHCRC contracts for staff and other support services through a services agreement with the City of Portland. The MHCRC funds an equivalent of four full-time (4.6 FTE) staff positions in the City’s Office for Community Technology, plus related materials, services, financial and administrative costs.

The Intergovernmental Agreement (“IGA”) establishes the responsibilities and powers of the MHCRC, including the process for member jurisdictions’ approval of the MHCRC’s annual budget. Under the terms of the IGA:

- The MHCRC transmits its adopted fiscal year budget to the jurisdictions for approval; and,
- Each jurisdiction annually contributes funding to the operations of the MHCRC as determined during the annual budget process through a cost allocation methodology.

The MHCRC adopted the FY 2021-22 Fund Budget at its May 24, 2021, meeting. About 43% of the MHCRC operating budget is funded by the jurisdictions’ allocations and the remaining by other MHCRC resources. The City of Portland cost allocation for the FY 2021-22 operating budget is \$348,545, which is the MHCRC Special Appropriation amount contained in the City of Portland Council approved FY 2021-22 budget. The City’s cost allocation represents 65% of the total jurisdictional allocations to the budget with 35% provided by the East County jurisdictions.

Nearly all the MHCRC’s resources are funds collected from the cable companies in the form of franchise fees for the East County Jurisdictions and the PEG/I-Net fees county-wide. The expenditures are disbursements, governed by the IGA and restricted for certain purposes under the cable services franchise agreements, to:

- East County Jurisdictions (franchise fee balance);
- Community media providers (MetroEast Community Media for both operating and capital funds; and Open Signal for capital funds);
- I-Net grants for public agencies’ network connectivity;
- Community Technology Grants to support nonprofits, libraries, and local governments community technology needs; and,
- TechSmart Initiative for Student Success grants to school districts throughout Multnomah County.

For more detail on the MHCRC budget, see Attachment 1 – Proposed MHCRC FY2021-22 Fund Budget.

Financial and budgetary impacts:

The City of Portland’s cost allocation to the MHCRC FY2021-22 budget, as outlined in this ordinance, is included in the Council approved FY FY2021-22 budget as a Special Appropriation. No additional resource is anticipated.

Community impacts and community involvement:

The MHCRC has a Finance Committee, which developed the draft FY2021-22 budget and the full MHCRC adopted the budget at its May 24, 2021 meeting. Each member jurisdiction considers budget approval at a city council or County Commission meeting.

100% Renewable Goal:

This action is not applicable to the City’s renewable goal.

Budgetary Impact Worksheet

Does this action change appropriations?

- YES:** Please complete the information below.
 NO: Skip this section

Fund	Fund Center	Commitment Item	Functional Area	Funded Program	Grant	Sponsored Program	Amount