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To: [Charles Varvayanis](#); [Friedhelm Peter](#); [Gloria Harvey](#); [Linda P. Clark](#); [Nelson Fialho](#); [Paul and Pam Emery](#); [Richard Barrett](#); [Ron Hawke](#); [Shaun Velayas](#)
Subject: Cable System Report - Revision 2
Date: Tuesday, August 17, 2010 7:34:28 PM
Attachments: [Proposed System Extension - Map - 8-9-2010.pdf](#)
[Television, Internet, and Telephone Survey - 8-17-2010.pdf](#)

Hello,

Revision 2 of the Cable System Report below and the website contain significant revisions and additional information and recommendations for moving forward.

I spoke with Christina M. Cunha, Executive Assistant, Tuolumne County Administrator's Office regarding Cable Systems in Tuolumne County. She supplied us copies of the Franchise Agreements with Comcast and Sierra Nevada Communications.

I also spoke with Daniel Richardson, County of Tuolumne, Deputy County Administrator. We discussed the Franchise Agreements, Comcast and the fact that there is no current record of Comcast's Service Area as related to the current Franchise Agreement. It is vague and the County seems satisfied with it. This seems strange whereas the County collects fees from Comcast based on customers serviced within its Service Area. Basically... Comcast can expand within Tuolumne County at will, by extending its lines. The County is strongly in favor of Comcast expanding and upgrading.

Sierra Nevada's Service Area is defined. Roughly... Pinecrest, Strawberry, Cold Springs, Long Barn, Sierra Village, Groveland and a portion of Columbia.

The Franchise Agreements are Nonexclusive. An example of this is: Sierra Nevada's Service Area includes Sierra Village, but Sierra Village is serviced by Comcast.

The County is currently meeting with Comcast in regards to upgrading and adding Internet to it's system. The county will be meeting with Sierra Nevada Communications in September to review it's Franchise Agreement.

Daniel provided me with contact information for Philip Arndt, Comcast, Director Governmental Affairs, 1242 National Drive, Sacramento, CA 95834 and basic guidance for preparing an argument in favor of Comcast extending it's system to Odd Fellow Sierra Park. Daniel recommends that Odd Fellows Sierra Park BOD determine its resident's interest level and draft a letter to Comcast with that information and additional information conducive to attracting Comcast. Daniel suggests that now would be a good time to contact Comcast regarding extending it's system to Odd Fellow Sierra Park whereas it is currently in discussions with Comcast and the two efforts complement each other.

Specific items that could attract Comcast to Odd Fellows Sierra Park are; Density (houses per cable mile), we have a higher density than much of Tuolumne County with greater than 40 homes per cable mile, 300 homes total, greater than 40 full time residences (> 13%), the type of part time owner that is likely to purchase cable services, and when available, the type of owners that will purchase Internet Services exceeds those that will purchase Television services alone (likely greater than 40%, or 120 likely customers). We are in close proximity to Comcast's cable plant in Sierra Village. It is 1.2 miles from the last utility pole with Comcast cable to the point on Highway 108 where PG&E poles cross Highway 108 at he Lakeview Drive Subdivision then travel an additional 0.3 miles to the point on Rebekah Road where PG&E enters Odd Fellow Sierra Park. In this scenario, Comcast would be in very close proximity to an additional 30 homes in the Lakeview Drive subdivision. See the attached map. PG&E and AT&T utility poles exist along the possible cable route.

Recommendations for preparing to contact Comcast:

- 1) Prepare brief letter describing what we are investigating and survey to determine Odd Fellows

Sierra Park resident's use and desired use of cable and related services, and its interest receiving in services from Comcast. This should be delivered with the August Newsletter whereas timing with the County of Tuolumne's efforts is desirable. Time is of the essence. Please see the attached prototype.

- 2) Negotiate with the County of Tuolumne a reduced Franchise Fee to 2% for Comcast for services delivered to Odd Fellows Sierra Park and Lakeview Drive for the duration of the current Franchise Agreement or some other period. This can be useful as an incentive for Comcast to expand its system to Odd Fellows Sierra Park and Lakeview Drive. This would also be good for the County of Tuolumne because Comcast would likely draw a larger customer base and collects higher rates than the incumbent provider in Odd Fellows Sierra Park and could add the Lakeview Drive subdivision, yielding higher revenues for the County of Tuolumne.
- 3) Determine if the Lakeview Drive Subdivision has a homeowner's association or other organized group and if so make them aware of our efforts, and invite the to join us in our efforts. The Lakeview Drive subdivision does not currently have any cable services.

I contacted Tim Miller in Administrators of the City of Sonora and obtained a copy of its Franchise Agreement with Comcast.

I contacted Zachariah Collom, Administrative Analyst, County of Calaveras and requested a copy of its Franchise Agreement with Comcast. They can not locate their Agreement with Comcast and can not find evidence one exists. They did locate a 1990 non-executed copy of a Franchise Agreement with King Videocable, the previous owner of the Cable System in Calaveras County prior to its transfer to Comcast. It is likely Comcast provided them with a Franchise Bond agreeing to the rules/regulations as stated in their ordinance.

I contacted Mary Kelly, Director of Administrative Services for the City of Angels Camp and have request a copy of its Franchise Agreement with Comcast. The franchise agreement they have was first negotiated pre 1980. It appears that Comcast took over King Videocable in the late 1990's or early 2000's. Comcast provided them with a Franchise Bond agreeing to the rules/regulations as stated in their ordinance.

Additional information, the Franchise Agreements, and additional documents are available on the website www.varvayanis.com/sp/Cable_Services.htm.

Sincerely,

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