

# TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

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## GENERAL RESPONSIBILITIES

The Iowa City Telecommunications Commission (ICTC) is a City commission comprised of five Iowa City residents and is mandated to oversee and facilitate the smooth and effective operation of Iowa City's Broadband Telecommunications Network (BTN), the City's franchised cable television system, the City's designated cable access television stations and to advise the City Council on telecommunications related matters. The Commission makes recommendations to City Council in matters pertaining to the BTN, helps to resolve disputes about the operation of the BTN, conducts periodic evaluations of the BTN operations, and in general facilitates BTN use by citizens of Iowa City, which includes the provision of and promotion of the cable television access channels and community programming activities.

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN FISCAL YEAR 2014

Reviewed monthly the general activities and services of the Iowa City cable television service provider/franchisee including Iowa City cable subscriber service complaints and resolutions.

Oversaw and approved the development of a contract with Public Access Television to provide public access services in Iowa City.

Monitored Mediacom's conversion to a state-issued franchise.

Analyzed the results of the Commission's residential broadband survey. Developed and implemented a program to provide consumers information needed to make informed market decisions in response to the results of the survey.

Initiated a local access channel survey to gather public perception of the channels and gather information to assist the channels in evaluating and improving their services.

Received and reviewed monthly, quarterly and annual program and progress reports from the City Channel 4, Interactive Channel 5, Library Channel 20, PATV Channel 18, Educational Channel 21, Senior Citizen Television (SCTV) and the Community Television Service.

Ongoing review of Federal and State legislative and regulatory activity related to cable television and other telecommunications industries.

Monitored and reviewed activities of the cable television and broadband service provider industries to identify current or future issues that might affect Iowa City's cable subscribers.

## PLANS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015

Analyze the results of the Commission's local access channel survey and develop recommendations for changes to access services provided to the community.

Provide input for the development of a new contract for public access services.