

**CABLE TELEVISION
RENEWAL LICENSE**

**GRANTED TO
VERIZON NEW ENGLAND INC.**

SELECT BOARD

**TOWN OF STOW,
MASSACHUSETTS**

DECEMBER 12, 2023

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SIGNATURE PAGE

EXHIBIT

EXHIBIT A – PUBLIC (MUNICIPAL AND SCHOOL BUILDINGS) TO BE PROVIDED
CABLE SERVICE UPON WRITTEN REQUEST OF THE ISSUING
AUTHORITY (SUBJECT TO SECTION 3.3)

THIS CABLE TELEVISION RENEWAL LICENSE AGREEMENT (this “License”) is entered into by and between the Select Board of the Town of Stow (the “Town”), as Issuing Authority for the grant of cable television license(s) pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 166A, and Verizon New England Inc., a corporation duly organized under the applicable laws of the State of New York (the “Licensee”).

WHEREAS, the Issuing Authority is a “franchising authority” in accordance with Section 602(10) of the Communications Act, and is authorized to grant one or more nonexclusive cable licenses pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 166A;

WHEREAS, the Issuing Authority granted to Licensee effective June 24, 2008, a nonexclusive first Renewal License to install, maintain, extend, and operate a Cable System in the Town for a term of fifteen (15) years (the “Final License”);

WHEREAS, the Licensee has operated a Cable System in accordance with the Final License as of the effective date on its existing Telecommunications Facilities consisting of a Fiber to the Premises Telecommunications Network (“FTTP Network”) in the Town which also transmits Non-Cable Services pursuant to authority granted by M.G.L. c. 166 and Title II, which Non-Cable Services are not subject to the Massachusetts Cable Law or Title VI;

WHEREAS, pursuant to and in accordance with applicable federal and State law, the Issuing Authority undertook a process to determine whether it should renew the Final License and the terms of such a renewal;

WHEREAS, the Issuing Authority has examined the past performance of Licensee and has determined that Licensee is and has been in material compliance with the Final License and applicable law;

WHEREAS, pursuant to and in accordance with applicable federal and State law, the Licensee submitted to the Issuing Authority a proposal to renew the Final License to operate a Cable System in the Town; and

WHEREAS, following good faith negotiations between the parties, the Issuing Authority and Licensee have agreed on the terms for a renewal License under which Licensee will continue to operate its Cable System in the Town.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the Issuing Authority’s grant of a renewal License to Licensee, Licensee’s promise to continue providing Cable Service to residents of the Town pursuant to the terms and conditions set forth herein, and for other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and the adequacy of which are hereby acknowledged,

THE SIGNATORIES HERETO DO HEREBY AGREE AS FOLLOWS:

1. DEFINITIONS

Except as otherwise provided herein, the definitions and word usages set forth in the Communications Act are incorporated herein and shall apply in this License. For the purpose of this License, the following words, terms, phrases and their derivations shall have the meanings

given herein. When not inconsistent with the context, the masculine pronoun includes the feminine pronoun, words used in the present tense include the future tense, words in the plural number include the singular number and words in the singular number include the plural number. The word shall is always mandatory and not merely directory. In addition, the following definitions shall apply:

1.1. *Access Channel*: A video Channel which the Licensee shall make available to the Town of Stow and/or the PEG Access Designee without charge for non-commercial public, educational, or governmental use for the transmission of Video Programming as directed by the Issuing Authority or its PEG Access Designee and in accordance with the terms of this License.

1.2. *Affiliate*: When used in relation to any Person, another Person who owns or controls, is owned or controlled by, or is under common ownership or control with, such Person.

1.3. *Basic Service*: Any service tier which includes the retransmission of local television broadcast signals as well as the PEG Access Channels required by this License.

1.4. *Cable Division*: The Cable Television Division of the Massachusetts Department of Telecommunications and Cable or its successor.

1.5. *Cable Service or Cable Services*: Shall be defined herein as it is defined under Section 602(6) of the Communications Act, 47 U.S.C. § 522(6), meaning the one-way transmission to Subscribers of Video Programming or other programming service, and Subscriber interaction, if any, which is required for the selection or use of such Video Programming or other programming service.

1.6. *Cable System or System*: Shall be defined herein as it is defined under Section 602(7) of the Communications Act, 47 U.S.C. § 522(7), meaning a facility, consisting of a set of closed transmission paths and associated signal generation, reception, and control equipment that is designed to provide cable service which includes video programming and which is provided to multiple Subscribers within the Town, but such term does not include (A) a facility that serves only to retransmit the television signals of one or more television broadcast stations; (B) a facility that serves subscribers without using any public right-of-way; (C) a facility of a common carrier which is subject, in whole or in part, to the provisions of Title II of the Communications Act, except that such facility shall be considered a cable system (other than for purposes of section 621(c) of the Communications Act) to the extent such facility is used in the transmission of video programming directly to subscribers unless the extent of such use is solely to provide interactive on-demand services; (D) an open video system that complies with Section 653 of the Communications Act; or (E) any facilities of any electric utility used solely for operating its electric utility systems.

1.7. *Channel*: Shall be defined herein as it is defined under Section 602(4) of the Communications Act, 47 U.S.C. § 522(4).

1.8. *CMR*: The Code of Massachusetts Regulations.

1.9. *Commercial Subscriber*: A commercial, non-residential Subscriber.

1.10. *Communications Act*: The Communications Act of 1934, as amended.

1.11. *Complaint*: Shall be defined herein as it is defined by the Cable Division's Order Adopting Revised Form 500 (June 11, 1999), meaning any written or verbal contact with the Licensee in connection with Cable Service in which a Person expresses dissatisfaction with an act, omission, product or service that is (1) within the Licensee's control, and (2) requires a corrective measure on the part of the Licensee.

1.12. *Converter*: A device capable of unscrambling coded video signals distributed over the Cable System.

1.13. *Educational Access Channel*: An Access Channel provided to the Town pursuant to the terms and conditions of this License and available for the non-commercial use of the local public schools in the Town and/or of the PEG Access Designee.

1.14. *FCC*: The United States Federal Communications Commission, or successor governmental entity thereto.

1.15. *Force Majeure*: Acts of God; acts of public enemies; orders of any kind of the government of the United States of America or of the State or any of their departments, agencies, political subdivisions, or officials, or any civil or military authority; insurrections; riots; epidemics; landslides; lightening; earthquakes; fires; hurricanes; volcanic activity; storms; floods; washouts; droughts; civil disturbances; explosions; strikes, labor disturbances or lockouts; unavailability of essential equipment, services and/or materials and/or other matters beyond the control of the Issuing Authority, the Town or the Licensee, and unreasonable work delays.

1.16. *Franchise Fee*: Shall have the meaning set forth in Section 622(g) of the Communications Act (47 U.S.C. §542(g)).

1.17. *FTTP Network*: The network constructed and operated by the Licensee and having the meaning set forth in the recitals of this License.

1.18. *Government Access Channel*: An Access Channel made available by the Licensee to the Town pursuant to the terms and conditions of this License for the use of the Issuing Authority and/or the PEG Access Designee to present non-commercial governmental programming.

1.19. *Gross Revenue*: All revenue, determined in accordance with United States Generally Accepted Accounting Principles ("GAAP") which is derived by the Licensee and/or its Affiliates from the operation of the Cable System to provide Cable Service in the Town, including, without limitation, the following items: fees, charges and payments collected from Subscribers (including Commercial Subscribers) for Cable Services, including, without limitation, Basic and premium Cable Service, video-on-demand Cable Service and pay-per-view Cable Service; installation, reconnection, downgrade, upgrade and similar charges; revenue received from rentals or sales to Subscribers of Converters, remote controls and other Subscriber equipment used to provide Cable Service over the Cable System; fees from third parties for Leased Access Channel programming; revenue that the Licensee receives from home shopping channels for the use of the

Cable System to sell merchandise as prorated to include such revenue attributable to the Cable System in the Town based on the number of Subscribers; advertising revenue as prorated to include such revenue attributable to the Cable System in the Town based on the number of Subscribers; and all fees imposed on the Licensee by this License and applicable law that are passed through and paid by Subscribers (including the License Fee, the PEG Access Support and the PEG Grant) as long as the Issuing Authority provides evidence that the PEG Grant of the other cable provider(s) in the Town is included in their respective gross revenue. Gross Revenue shall include revenue of an Affiliate only to the extent that such Affiliate revenue relates to the operation of the Cable System to provide Cable Service in the Town, and not the revenue of any such Affiliate that are not related thereto. In no event shall revenue of an Affiliate be Gross Revenue to the Licensee if such revenue is otherwise subject to Franchise Fees and paid to the Issuing Authority. If Cable Services are provided to Subscribers in conjunction with Non-Cable Services, nothing herein shall prevent the Licensee from allocating a greater amount of the combined revenue to Cable Services than is otherwise provided pursuant to GAAP; provided, however, that Gross Revenue shall not include:

1.19.1. Revenue received by any Affiliate or other Person in exchange for supplying goods or services used by Licensee to provide Cable Service over the Cable System, except to the extent that such revenue are derived from the operation of the Cable System to provide Cable Service in the Town;

1.19.2. Bad debts written off by Licensee in the normal course of its business, provided, however, that bad debt recoveries shall be included in Gross Revenue during the period collected;

1.19.3. Refunds, rebates or discounts made to Subscribers

1.19.4. Any revenue classified as Non-Cable Service revenue under federal or State law, including, without limitation, revenue received from Telecommunication Services; revenue received from Information Services, including without limitation, Internet access service, electronic mail service, electronic bulletin board service, or similar online computer services; and directory or Internet advertising revenue including, but not limited to, yellow page, white page, banner advertisement and electronic publishing.

1.19.5. Any revenue of Licensee or any other Person which is received directly from the sale of merchandise through any Cable Service distributed over the Cable System, notwithstanding that portion of such revenue which represents or can be attributed to a Subscriber fee or a payment for the use of the Cable System for the sale of such merchandise, which portion shall be included in Gross Revenue;

1.19.6. Revenue from the sale of Cable Service on the Cable System to a reseller, when the reseller is required by law to pay (and does pay) Franchise Fees and other license fees to the Town on the resale of the Cable Service. Nothing under this section is intended to limit the rights of the Town pursuant to Section 622(h) of the Communications Act (47 U.S.C. § 542(h));

1.19.7. Any tax of general applicability imposed by a town, State, federal or any other governmental entity and required to be collected from Subscribers by the Licensee and remitted to the taxing entity (including, but not limited to, sales/use taxes);

1.19.8. Any revenue foregone as a result of the Licensee's provision of free or reduced cost Cable Service as required by this License to any Person, including without limitation, employees of the Licensee and public institutions or other institutions as required or permitted herein and to other customers which are exempt, as required or allowed by the Town; provided, however, that such foregone revenue which Licensee chooses not to receive in exchange for trades, barter, services or other items of value shall be included in Gross Revenue;

1.19.9. Revenue from the sales of capital assets or sales of surplus equipment; and

1.19.10. Program launch fees.

1.20. *High-Definition (HD) PEG Access Channel:* A PEG Access Channel in the high-definition display format for digital television transmissions with video transmitted in a 16:9 aspect ratio with a resolution of 720p or 1080i.

1.21. *Information Services:* Shall be defined herein as it is defined under Section 3 of the Communications Act, 47 U.S.C. § 153(24).

1.22. *Internet Access Service:* Dial-up or broadband access service that enables access the Internet.

1.23. *Issuing Authority:* The Select Board of the Town of Stow, Massachusetts.

1.24. *Leased Access Channel:* A Channel that the Licensee designates for commercial use pursuant to Section 612 of the Communications Act.

1.25. *License Fee:* The payments to be made by the Licensee to the Town, which shall have the meaning as set forth in Section 9 of M.G.L. Chapter 166A.

1.26. *Licensee:* Verizon New England Inc., and its lawful and permitted successors, assigns and transferees.

1.27. *M.G.L. Chapter 166A:* Chapter 166A of the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

1.28. *Non-Cable Services:* Any service that does not constitute Cable Service(s), including, but not limited to, Information Services and Telecommunications Services.

1.29. *PEG:* Public, educational, and governmental.

1.30. *PEG Access Channel:* An Access Channel that the Licensee provides to the Town for non-commercial use pursuant to the terms and conditions of this License, and managed by the Issuing Authority and/or the PEG Access Designee.

1.31. *PEG Access Designee*: Any entity designated in writing by the Issuing Authority for the purpose of owning and/or operating the equipment and facilities used in the production and/or broadcast of PEG Access Channel programming, including, but not limited to, any Access Corporation.

1.32. *PEG Access Programming*: Non-commercial Video Programming transmitted on the PEG Access Channel(s) pursuant to the terms of this License, and applicable laws.

1.33. *Person*: Any corporation, partnership, limited partnership, association, trust, organization, joint stock company, other business entity, individual, or governmental entity.

1.34. *Prime Rate*: The prime rate of interest as published in the Wall Street Journal.

1.35. *Public Access Channel*: An Access Channel made available to the Town pursuant to the terms and conditions of this License and available for the use by the residents in the Town and managed by the Issuing Authority and/or its PEG Access Designee.

1.36. *Public Rights-of-Way*: The surface and the area across, in, over, along, upon and below the surface of the public streets, roads, bridges, sidewalks, lanes, courts, ways, alleys, and boulevards, including public utility easements, and public lands and waterways used as Public Rights-of-Way, as the same now or may thereafter exist, which are under the jurisdiction or control of the Town.

1.37. *Service Area*: The entire existing territorial limits of the Town.

1.38. *Standard Definition ("SD") PEG Access Channel*: A PEG Access Channel in the standard definition display format for digital television transmissions with video transmitted in 4:3 aspect ratio with a resolution of 480i.

1.39. *State*: The Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

1.40. *Subscriber*: A Person who lawfully receives Cable Service in the Town.

1.41. *Telecommunications Facilities*: The Licensee's existing Telecommunications Services and Information Services facilities, including the FTTP Network.

1.42. *Telecommunication Services*: Shall be defined herein as it is defined under Section 3 of the Communications Act, 47 U.S.C. § 153(53).

1.43. *Title II*: Title II of the Communications Act.

1.44. *Title VI*: Title VI of the Communications Act.

1.45. *Town*: The Town of Stow, Massachusetts.

1.46. *Video Programming*: Shall be defined herein as it is defined under Section 602(20) of the Communications Act, 47 U.S.C. § 522(20).

1.47. *Video Service Provider or VSP*: Any entity using the Public Rights-of-Way to provide Video Programming services to multiple subscribers within the territorial boundaries of the Town, regardless of the transmission method, facilities or technologies used.

2. GRANT OF LICENSE AUTHORITY

2.1. *Grant of Authority*: Subject to the terms and conditions of this License and pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 166A, the Issuing Authority hereby grants the Licensee the right to own, operate and maintain a Cable System in, under, over and along the Public Rights-of-Way within the Town and subsequent additions thereto, in order to provide Cable Service. This License grants no authority for the Licensee to use the Public Rights-of-Way within the Town for any other purpose(s) unless otherwise provided herein. The Licensee's FTTP Network is subject to M.G.L. c. 166 and as such is subject to regulation by the Town consistent with that law. The Licensee shall adhere to all applicable local bylaws and lawful regulations of the Town regarding Public Rights-of-Way and public works matters, including rights-of-way management requirements with regard to public safety, aesthetics, pole attachments and other legitimate municipal concerns. Nothing in this Section 2.1 shall be deemed to prohibit the right of the Licensee to challenge the legality of such local bylaws, regulations and requirements, or the right of the Issuing Authority to oppose any such challenge. Consistent with and subject to the Licensee's existing authority to operate in the Public Rights-of-Way, grant of this License does not establish priority for use over other present or future permit holders or the Town's own use of Public Rights-of-Way. Any disputes between the Licensee and other parties regarding use of the Public Rights-of-Way shall be resolved in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

2.2. *Issuing Authority Does Not Regulate Telecommunications*: The parties recognize that the Licensee's FTTP Network is constructed, operated and maintained as an upgrade to and/or an extension of its existing Telecommunications Facilities for the provision of Non-Cable Services. The jurisdiction of the Town over such Telecommunications Facilities is restricted by federal and State law, and the Town does not and will not assert jurisdiction over the Licensee's FTTP Network in contravention of those limitations. Therefore, the Issuing Authority's regulatory authority under Title VI is not applicable to the construction, installation, maintenance or operation of the FTTP Network to the extent the FTTP Network is constructed, installed, maintained and operated for the purpose of upgrading and/or extending Verizon's existing Telecommunications Facilities for the provision of Non-Cable Services.

2.3. *Term*: The term of this License shall be for a period of five (5) years, commencing on December 12, 2023 (the "Effective Date"), and shall expire at midnight on December 11, 2028, unless the License is earlier terminated by the Licensee pursuant to the terms of Section 2.4 or 2.5 of this License or revoked by the Issuing Authority as provided herein.

2.4. *Termination Generally:* Notwithstanding any provision herein to the contrary, Licensee may terminate this License upon two hundred seventy (270) days' written notice to the Issuing Authority. Licensee shall not provide the notice of termination sooner than the beginning of the 28th month following the Effective Date. In the event that Licensee provides a notice of termination to the Issuing Authority, it shall so notify its Subscribers at a time and in a manner as determined by Licensee in its sole discretion.

2.5. *Modification/Termination Based on VSP Requirements:*

2.5.1. If the Issuing Authority enters into any cable franchise, cable license or similar agreement with a VSP to provide Video Programming services to residential subscribers in the Town with terms or conditions materially less burdensome than those imposed by this License, Licensee and the Issuing Authority shall, within sixty (60) days of the Issuing Authority's receipt of Licensee's written notice thereof, commence negotiations to modify this License to provide that this License is not on terms or conditions materially more burdensome than the terms in any such cable franchise, cable license or similar agreement. Any modification of the License pursuant to the terms of this Section shall not trigger the requirements of 207 CMR 3.07. The PEG Access Support, as provided in Section 5.4, will not be subject to modification under this Section 2.5.1 or 2.5.2.

2.5.2. Licensee's notice pursuant to Section 2.5.1 shall specify the cable franchise, cable license or similar agreement and the materially less burdensome terms or conditions as set out in Section 2.5.1 above. Licensee shall respond to reasonable information requests from the Town, as may be necessary to review the same.

2.5.3. In the event the parties do not, subject to the criteria above, reach mutually acceptable agreement on a modification as set out above, Licensee shall in its sole discretion, have the option of exercising any of the following actions:

a. commencing License renewal proceedings in accordance with 47 U.S.C. 546 with the License term being accelerated, thus being deemed to expire thirty-six (36) months from the date of Licensee's written notice to seek relief hereunder;

b. terminating the License in no less than thirty-six (36) months from written notice to the Issuing Authority;

c. if agreed by both parties, submitting the matter to commercial arbitration by a mutually-selected arbitrator in accordance with the rules of the American Arbitration Association; or

d. if agreed to by both parties, submitting the matter to mediation by a mutually-acceptable mediator.

2.5.4. Modification of the PEG Access Support under this License shall, as applicable, be in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in Section 5.4 hereunder. As stated above, PEG Access Support is not subject to modification under Section 2.5.1.

2.6. *Grant Not Exclusive:* This License and the rights granted herein to use and occupy the Public Rights-of-Way to provide Cable Services shall not be exclusive, and the Issuing Authority reserves the right to grant other licenses for similar uses or for other uses of the Public Rights-of-Way, or any portions thereof, to any Person, or to make any such use itself, at any time during the term of this License. The issuance of additional cable license(s) shall be subject to applicable federal laws, M.G.L. Chapter 166A and applicable regulations promulgated thereunder.

2.7. *License Subject to Applicable Federal and State Law:* This License is subject to and shall be governed by all applicable provisions of federal and State law(s) and regulations as they may be amended, including but not limited to Title VI and M.G.L. Chapter 166A.

2.8. *No Waiver:*

2.8.1. The failure of the Issuing Authority on one or more occasions to exercise a right or to require compliance or performance under this License, M.G.L. Chapter 166A or any other applicable law, bylaw or lawful regulation shall not be deemed to constitute a waiver of such right or a waiver of compliance or performance by the Issuing Authority, nor to excuse the Licensee from complying or performing, unless such right or such compliance or performance has been specifically waived in writing.

2.8.2. The failure of the Licensee on one or more occasions to exercise a right under this License or applicable law, or to require performance under this License, shall not be deemed to constitute a waiver of such right or of performance of this License, nor shall it excuse the Issuing Authority from performance, unless such right or performance has been specifically waived in writing.

2.9. *Construction of License:*

2.9.1. The provisions of this License shall be liberally construed to effectuate their objectives.

2.9.2. Nothing herein shall be construed to limit the scope or applicability of Section 625 of the Communications Act, 47 U.S.C. § 545.

2.10. *Police Powers:* Nothing in this License shall be construed to prohibit the reasonable, necessary and lawful exercise of the Town's police powers. However, if the reasonable, necessary and lawful exercise of the Town's police powers causes the Licensee's provision of Cable Service in the Town to be commercially impracticable, then the parties shall modify this License to the mutual satisfaction of both parties to ameliorate such commercial impracticability. If the parties cannot reach agreement on the above-referenced modification to this License, then, at the Licensee's option, the parties shall submit the matter to binding arbitration.

2.11. *Transfer of the License:*

2.11.1. Subject to Section 617 of the Communications Act, M.G.L. Chapter 166A and Section 2.11.2 below, the Licensee shall not transfer this License without the prior consent of the Issuing Authority, provided that such consent shall not be arbitrarily or unreasonably withheld, delayed or conditioned. Such consent shall be given only after a public hearing upon a written application therefore on forms prescribed by the Cable Division and/or the FCC. Subject to applicable law, the Licensee shall submit to the Issuing Authority an original and one (1) copy of the application on FCC Form 394 requesting such transfer request. The Issuing Authority shall have one hundred twenty (120) days, or such other time frame that may be established by applicable law or as otherwise agreed to by the parties in accordance with applicable law, from the filing of the completed Form 394 to take final action on it. If the Issuing Authority has not taken final action within such one hundred twenty (120) day period, then the application shall be deemed approved, unless said one hundred twenty (120) day period is extended by mutual consent of the parties.

2.11.2. The Licensee shall not be required to obtain the Issuing Authority's consent to transfer this License in connection with any transaction that does not constitute a transfer of control under applicable State laws and regulations, including, without limitation, the following: (i) (A) a transfer of an ownership or other interest in the Licensee to the parent of the Licensee or to another Affiliate of the Licensee; (B) transfer or assignment of this License or control thereof to the parent of the Licensee or to another Affiliate of the Licensee; (C) any action which is the result of a merger of the parent of the Licensee; or (D) any action which is the result of a merger of another Affiliate of the Licensee; or (ii) in connection with a transfer in trust, by mortgage, by other hypothecation, by assignment of any rights, title, or interest of the Licensee in this License or the Cable System in order to secure indebtedness; provided, however, that to the extent that any of the foregoing transactions are determined to constitute a transfer of control pursuant to 207 CMR 4.01, then such transaction shall be subject to the Cable Division's transfer regulations (207 CMR 4.00, et. seq.).

2.11.3. Pursuant to 207 CMR 4.04, as may be amended, and applicable federal law, in considering a request to transfer control of this License, the Issuing Authority may consider only the transferee's management experience, technical expertise, financial capability and legal ability to operate the Cable System under this License, and any other criteria allowable under applicable law and/or regulation.

2.11.4. The consent or approval of the Issuing Authority to a transfer of this License shall not constitute a waiver or release of the rights of the Town under this License.

2.11.5. In the event that this License is transferred, the transferee shall be subject to all of the terms and conditions contained in this License.

2.12. *Compliance with Federal and State Privacy Laws:* Licensee shall comply with the privacy provisions of Section 631 of the Communications Act and all other applicable federal and State privacy laws and regulations. The parties agree that, during the term hereof, Licensee shall not be subject to any local laws or bylaws which conflict with such applicable federal and/or State privacy laws, or which would impose additional or distinct requirements upon

Licensee with respect to Subscriber privacy other than those which are expressly set forth in applicable federal and/or State privacy laws.

3. PROVISION OF CABLE SERVICE

3.1. *Service Area:*

3.1.1. *Service Area:* Subject to the issuance of all necessary permits by the Town, the Licensee shall continue to offer Cable Service to all residential households in the Service Area, except: (A) for periods of Force Majeure; (B) for periods of delay caused by the Town; (C) for periods of delay resulting from Licensee's inability to obtain authority to access rights-of-way in the Town; (D) in developments or buildings that are subject to claimed exclusive arrangements with other cable providers; (E) in developments, buildings or other residential dwelling units that Licensee cannot obtain permission to access under reasonable terms and conditions after good faith negotiation, as determined in good faith by Licensee; and (F) in developments, buildings or other residential dwelling units where Licensee is unable to provide Cable Service for technical reasons or which require non-standard facilities which are not available on a commercially reasonable basis; (G) in areas where the occupied residential household density does not meet the density requirement set forth in Section 3.1.2; and (H) in areas where the Licensee determines, in good faith, that providing such service is not commercially reasonable.

3.1.2. *Density Requirement:* Subject to Section 3.1.1, the Licensee shall make Cable Services available to residential dwelling units in all areas of the Town where there are thirty (30) residential dwelling units per aerial mile from the nearest FTTP Network trunk or feeder line and/or sixty (60) residential dwelling units per underground mile from the nearest FTTP Network trunk or feeder line.

3.2. *Availability of Cable Service:* The Licensee shall make Cable Service available to all residential dwelling units, and may make Cable Service available to businesses, within the Town in conformance with Section 3.1. In the areas in which the Licensee shall provide Cable Service, the Licensee shall be required to connect, at the Licensee's expense, all residential dwelling units that are within one hundred fifty (150) feet of the Licensee's FTTP Network. The Licensee shall be allowed to recover, from a Subscriber who requests such connection, actual costs incurred for residential dwelling unit connections that exceed one hundred fifty (150) feet, and actual costs incurred to connect any non-residential dwelling unit Subscriber.

3.3. *Cable Service to Public Buildings:* Subject to Section 3.1 and the applicable provisions of the FCC's 2019 Third Report and Order In the Matter of Implementation of Section 621 of the Cable Act (the "621 Order"), as such 621 Order may be in effect and/or amended during the term of this License, if requested in writing by the Issuing Authority, Licensee shall provide in a reasonable amount of time and after notifying the Issuing Authority of the process by which it shall implement the 621 Order's requirements regarding the provision of free or discounted Cable Service to public buildings under a cable license, one Cable Service drop, an outlet, and monthly Basic Service along its activated Cable System route in the Town at no cost to public buildings in the Town. The current list of public buildings is set forth in **Exhibit A**. The parties agree that the exercise of any conditional obligations set forth in this Section 3.3 shall not constitute a modification or amendment of the License within the meaning of 207 CMR 3.07.

4. SYSTEM FACILITIES

4.1. *System Characteristics:* The Licensee's Cable System shall meet or exceed the following requirements and/or have at least the following characteristics:

4.1.1. The Cable System shall be operated with a digital carrier passband of between 50 and 860 MHz.

4.1.2. The Cable System shall be operated to be an active two-way plant for subscriber interaction, if any, required for the selection or use of Cable Service.

4.1.3. The Cable System shall comply with applicable FCC technical standards, as such standards may be amended from time to time.

4.1.4. The Cable System shall conform in all material respects to the following standards to the extent applicable: Occupational Safety and Health Administration regulations, the Massachusetts Electrical Code, the National Electrical Code, the National Electrical Safety Code, and the rules and regulations of the Cable Division and the FCC.

4.2. *Emergency Alert System:* The Licensee shall comply with the Emergency Alert System ("EAS") requirements of the FCC and any applicable State and local EAS Plans in order that emergency messages may be distributed over the Cable System.

4.3. *Parental Control Capability:* The Licensee shall comply with all applicable requirements of federal law(s) governing Subscribers' capability to control the reception of any Channels being received on their television sets.

5. PEG ACCESS SERVICES AND SUPPORT

5.1. *PEG Access Channels:*

5.1.1. The Licensee shall continue to make available to the Issuing Authority and/or the PEG Access Designee, as designated in writing by the Issuing Authority, capacity for two (2) SD PEG Access Channels on its Basic Service Tier. In accordance with Section 5.1.2 below, the Issuing Authority may also request one (1) HD PEG Access Channel for a total of three (3) PEG Access Channels.

5.1.2. In addition to the two (2) SD PEG Access Channels referenced above, the Licensee shall make one (1) HD PEG Access Channel available to the Issuing Authority and/or the PEG Access Designee, as designated in writing by the Issuing Authority, as follows: Starting on the Effective Date of this License, the Issuing Authority may make a written request for such an HD PEG Access Channel to the Licensee. Upon receipt of the Issuing Authority's written request, the Licensee shall make such an HD PEG Access Channel available to the Issuing Authority within two hundred seventy (270) days of the Licensee's receipt of such written notice from the Issuing Authority. The Issuing Authority shall include in its written notice a statement of whether the programming of such HD PEG Access Channel shall either be a simulcast of existing SD PEG Access Channel programming in HD or distinct programming. The Issuing Authority or

the PEG Access Designee may subsequently change the programming on the HD PEG Access Channel from an SD PEG Access Channel simulcast in HD to distinct programming, or from distinct programming to an SD PEG Access Channel simulcast in HD, upon one hundred eighty (180) days prior written notice from the Issuing Authority to the Licensee which change shall not occur more than once during the License term. To the extent permitted by law, the Licensee shall be allowed to recover from Subscribers applicable costs incurred to transmit HD PEG Access Channel programming of any type.

5.1.3. All programming content for the HD PEG Access Channel shall be transmitted to Licensee in HD-SDI format with a resolution consistent with the definition of “High Definition” above. The Issuing Authority expressly acknowledges that an HD PEG Access Channel may not be available at all times during the term of this License on Licensee’s Basic Service Tier and that in order to view the HD PEG Access Channel, a Subscriber may be required to upgrade equipment at an additional charge.

5.1.4. The Issuing Authority hereby authorizes the Licensee to transmit PEG Access programming within the Town’s jurisdictional boundaries and outside the Town’s jurisdictional boundaries to other areas that are served out of the same central offices of the Licensee as those that serve the Town. The Licensee reserves the right to make or change PEG Access Channel assignments in its sole discretion, subject to applicable law and regulations. If a PEG Access Channel provided under this Article is not being utilized by the Issuing Authority and/or the PEG Access Designee, other than due to Force Majeure, the Licensee may utilize such PEG Access Channel by providing at least ninety (90) days advance written notice to the Issuing Authority, but only in the event that the Issuing Authority or the PEG Access Designee does not commence use of said PEG Access Channel within said ninety (90) day notice period. In the event that the Issuing Authority and/or the PEG Access Designee determines to use such PEG Access Channel capacity for PEG Access purposes, the Issuing Authority shall have the right to utilize such PEG Access Channel by providing at least ninety (90) days advance written notice to the Licensee.

5.2. *PEG Interconnection and Cablecasting:*

5.2.1. The Licensee shall continue to connect to equipment owned by the Town and/or the PEG Access Designee located at 380 Great Road, Stow, MA (the “PEG Interconnection Site”). The Issuing Authority or, if designated by the Issuing Authority in writing to Licensee, the Town’s PEG Access Designee, shall be required to pay Licensee for all direct or reasonably related costs associated with: (i) any equipment upgrade where the need for the upgrade is initiated by the Issuing Authority or PEG Access Designee; (ii) relocating any connection where the need for relocation is initiated by the Issuing Authority or its PEG Access Designee; (iii) re-installing and/or replacing any connection at an existing location where the need for such re-installation and/or replacement is caused by the Town or its PEG Access Designee and initiated by the Issuing Authority or its PEG Access Designee; or (iv) installing any new connection if initiated by the Issuing Authority or its PEG Access Designee; provided, however, that Issuing Authority and/or PEG Access Designee responsibility for the foregoing costs is subject to Licensee’s prior disclosure of such costs and prior express written consent to same by the Issuing Authority or its PEG Access Designee. Any upgrade or change referenced in subsections (i) and

(iv) above required in order for PEG Access Channel cablecasting or PEG Access Channel programming as provided to Subscribers to meet a requirement of applicable law or regulation, including with respect to video or audio quality, shall not be deemed to be “initiated” by the Issuing Authority or its PEG Access Designee.

5.2.2. The demarcation point between the Licensee’s signal processing equipment (which the Licensee shall own, install and maintain) and the Town’s and/or PEG Access Designee’s PEG access equipment shall be at the output of the Town’s and/or PEG Access Designee’s signal processing equipment at the PEG Interconnection Site. The Town and/or the PEG Access Designee shall be solely responsible for operating its switching equipment and the picture and audio quality of all PEG Access Programming up to the demarcation point and for providing that all PEG Access Programming is inserted on the appropriate upstream PEG Access Channel. All PEG Access Programming shall be transmitted to the Licensee in baseband, SD-SDI or HD-SDI format with either mono or stereo audio signals, and with signals received by Licensee in stereo cablecast by Licensee in stereo. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Licensee shall not be obligated to provide the Town or its PEG Access Designee with either cablecast equipment and facilities or the personnel responsible for maintaining and operating equipment and facilities on the Town’s side of the demarcation point and used to generate or administer any PEG Access signals, except as necessary to implement the Licensee’s responsibilities specified herein. The Issuing Authority and the Licensee shall work together in good faith to resolve any connection issues.

5.2.3. The Licensee shall provide, install, maintain, repair and replace all equipment necessary to receive and transmit all such PEG programming and all PEG Access Channels as described in Section 5.2.1 above to Subscribers, including any amplification, optical conversion, receiving, cable system headend, processing, and transmitting equipment needed.

5.2.4. The Licensee shall monitor the PEG Access Channels for technical quality consistent with applicable FCC technical standards, as such standards may be amended from time to time, and shall ensure that they are maintained at standards the same or better than those which apply to the Cable System’s commercial channels of similar format and resolution, provided, however, that the Licensee is not responsible for the production quality of PEG Access Programming productions, nor for any deficiencies in the source signal it receives from any party over which the Licensee has no control.

5.3. *PEG Grant:* Licensee shall pay to the Issuing Authority, or to its PEG Access Designee if requested in writing by the Issuing Authority, a PEG grant in the total amount of Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars (\$75,000.00) to be used for PEG Access Channel capital funding purposes (the “PEG Grant”), as follows:

5.3.1. Within forty-five days of the Effective Date, Licensee shall pay to the Issuing Authority the sum of Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00). Licensee shall make two (2) additional payments to the Issuing Authority in the amount of Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) each on the first and second anniversaries of the Effective Date, respectively. The Issuing Authority and/or PEG Access Designee, as determined by the Issuing Authority, shall own all facilities and equipment purchased with the PEG Grant. The Issuing Authority and/or PEG Access Designee shall own all facilities and equipment purchased with the

PEG Grant. The Licensee shall have no obligation to maintain, repair, replace or insure any equipment or facilities purchased with the PEG Grant.

5.3.2. Licensee shall be allowed to submit or correct any payments that were incorrectly omitted, and shall be refunded any payments that were incorrectly submitted, in connection with the PEG Grant remittances within ninety (90) days following the PEG Grant payment date for which such payments were applicable. Any such refund shall be requested in writing by Licensee and shall include an itemized account of the basis of the refund requested. The PEG Grant shall not be counted against either the PEG Access Support payment required by Section 5.4, or any License Fee required by Section 6.1.

5.4. *PEG Access Support:*

5.4.1. The Licensee shall provide annual funding to the Issuing Authority for PEG Access Channel operating support or other PEG Access Channel costs and expenses ("PEG Access Support") in the amount equal to Four and Three-Quarters percent (4.75%) of annual Gross Revenue as defined above, subject to the limitation in Section 6.2. If the Town issues or renews any cable license after the Effective Date that provides for a lower percentage of PEG Access Support, then the Licensee's percentage of PEG Access Support payments shall be reduced to match such lower percentage over that same time period. The Issuing Authority shall place Licensee's PEG Access Support payments in a restricted account for cable related purposes in the nature of a grant account and not into the general fund, which account will be under the Issuing Authority's control.

5.4.2. The PEG Access Support payments shall be made no later than forty-five (45) days following the end of each calendar quarter. Each such quarterly payment shall be accompanied by a Gross Revenue report documenting, in reasonable detail, the Gross Revenue as defined above. The Licensee shall be allowed to provide an extra payment if needed to correct any payments that were incorrectly omitted, and shall have the right to offset against future payments any payments that were incorrectly submitted, in connection with the quarterly remittances, within ninety (90) days following the close of the calendar quarter for which such payments were applicable. For purposes of the PEG Access Support payment, the period for determining Gross Revenue shall be the preceding calendar quarter.

5.4.3. In no case shall said Four and Three-Quarters percent (4.75%) payments include: (i) the PEG Grant; (ii) costs of PEG Access channel, interconnection and cablecasting obligations required by Sections 5.1 and 5.2 above; or (iii) any other fees or payments required by applicable law, except as provided in Section 6.2, below; provided however, that said Four and Three-Quarters percent (4.75%) payments shall be a Franchise Fee, and subject to the five percent (5%) cap on Franchise Fees pursuant to Section 622(h) of the Communications Act (47 U.S.C. §542(b)).

5.5. *Late Payments:* In the event that any of the PEG Grant, the PEG Access Support and/or the License Fee payments is or are not paid on or before the due date set forth in this License for such payments, then interest shall accrue from the due date until the date paid at the rate of one percent (1%) per annum above the Prime Rate, compounded annually.

5.6. *Censorship:* The Licensee, the Issuing Authority and the PEG Access Designee shall comply with applicable laws regarding program censorship or any other control of the content of the PEG Access Programming on the Cable System.

5.7. *PEG Operational Rules:* The Issuing Authority and/or the PEG Access Designee shall establish rules and regulations that require all local producers and users of any of the PEG Access facilities or Channels to assume individual responsibility for any program-based liability including but not limited to liability for copyright infringement or defamation. The Access Designee shall establish rules and regulations for use of PEG Access facilities consistent with, and as required by, Section 611 of the Communications Act (47 U.S.C. § 531) and this License.

5.8. *Listing of PEG Access Channels On Licensee's Electronic Program Guide:* If the Licensee lists PEG Access Channel program content titles on its electronic program guide in any other municipality in the State (other than on a test or trial basis), then it shall, upon written request of the Issuing Authority, discuss with the Issuing Authority or its PEG Access Designee, the technical feasibility and commercial reasonability of listing the Town's PEG Access Channel program content titles on the Licensee's electronic program guide and the provision thereof by the Licensee; however, the Licensee shall not be required by this Section to list the Town's PEG Access Channel program content titles on its electronic program guide.

5.9. *PEG Access Video-On-Demand:* If the Licensee provides any other municipality in the State with PEG Access Channel programming "video-on-demand" (VOD) (other than on a test or trial basis), then it shall, upon written request of the Issuing Authority, discuss with the Issuing Authority, the technical feasibility and commercial reasonability of providing, and the provision of, PEG Access Channel programming VOD in the Town; however, the Licensee shall not be required by this Section to provide PEG Access Channel programming VOD in the Town.

5.10. *Non-Commercial Programming:* The Issuing Authority and PEG Access Designee shall not use the PEG Access Channels to provide for-profit commercial programming. Nothing in this Section shall prohibit the Issuing Authority or its PEG Access Designee from having memberships, sponsorships, underwriting or acknowledgements (such as underwriting and acknowledgements accepted by PBS), to the extent not otherwise prohibited by applicable law and regulation.

5.11. *No PEG Access Designee Rights:* The Issuing Authority and the Licensee herein acknowledge and agree that any PEG Access Designee is not a party to this License and that any provisions herein that may affect a PEG Access Designee are not intended to create any rights on behalf of any PEG Access Designee.

6. LICENSE FEES

6.1. *License Fee:* Pursuant to Section 9 of M.G.L. Chapter 166A, the Licensee shall pay to the Town, throughout the term of this License, a license fee equal to fifty cents (\$.50) per Subscriber per year (the "License Fee"), or such other amount as may in the future be designated by applicable State law.

6.2. *Maximum Franchise Fee Obligation:* The Licensee shall not be liable for a total Franchise Fee, pursuant to this License and applicable law in excess of five percent (5%) of annual Gross Revenue (as defined above).

6.3. *Payment Information:* In determining the License Fee, the number of Subscribers shall be measured as of December 31st of the preceding calendar year. The License Fee shall be paid no later than March 15th of each year during the term of this License.

6.4. *Limitation on Actions:* The period of limitation for recovery of any payment obligation under this License shall be three (3) years from the date on which payment by Licensee is due.

6.5. *Recomputation and Audit:* Tender or acceptance of any payment made pursuant to Article 5 and/or 6 herein shall not be construed as an accord that the amount paid is correct, nor shall such acceptance of payment be construed as a release of any claim that the Issuing Authority may have for additional sums, including interest payable under Section 5.7 above. If the Issuing Authority has reason to believe that any such payment is incorrect, it may notify the Licensee thereof in writing within one hundred eighty (180) days after receiving such payment. Licensee shall then have ninety (90) business days after receipt of such notice to provide the Town with additional information documenting the accuracy of such payment. In the event that the Issuing Authority does not reasonably believe that such documentation supports the accuracy of such payment, then the Issuing Authority may conduct an audit of such payment, provided that the Issuing Authority shall be limited to one audit for any two (2) year period of this License or such shorter period of time that may remain after the expiration of the initial two (2) year period of this License, which audit shall be subject to Section 6.4 above. If, after such audit and recomputation, the Issuing Authority determines that an additional fee is owed to the Town, then the Licensee shall be provided with a reasonable opportunity to review the results of such audit and to dispute any audit results, and shall pay any undisputed amounts within thirty (30) business days after completion of such review, together with any applicable late charges calculated pursuant to Section 5.7 above. The Town shall have the right to pursue any disputed amount not paid by Licensee in accordance with the enforcement provisions set forth in Article 13 of this License.

6.6. *Method of Payment:* The PEG Grant, the PEG Access Support and the License Fee shall be made payable to the Town and provided to the Issuing Authority, unless the Licensee is otherwise notified in writing by the Issuing Authority.

6.7. *Other Payment Obligations and Exclusions:*

6.7.1. Unless otherwise required by applicable law, the License Fee and Franchise Fee payments shall be in addition to and shall not constitute an offset or credit against any and all taxes or other fees or charges of general applicability which Licensee or any Affiliate shall be required to pay to the Town, or to any State or federal agency or authority, as required herein or by law; the payment of said taxes, fees or charges shall not constitute a credit or offset against the License Fee or Franchise Fee payments all of which shall be separate and distinct obligations of the Licensee and each Affiliate.

6.7.2. In accordance with Section 622(h) of the Communications Act (47 U.S.C. §542(h)), nothing in the Communications Act or this License shall be construed to limit any authority of the Issuing Authority to impose a tax, fee or other assessment of any kind on any Person (other than the Licensee) with respect to Cable Service or other communications service provided by such Person over the Cable System for which charges are assessed to Subscribers but not received by the Licensee. For any twelve (12) month period, the fees paid by any such Person with respect to any such Cable Service or other communications service shall not exceed five percent (5%) of such Person's gross revenue derived in such period from the provision of such service over the Cable System.

6.8. *Affiliates Use of System:* Use of the Cable System by any Affiliates of the Licensee shall be in compliance with applicable State and/or federal laws and this License.

7. CUSTOMER SERVICE

7.1. *Standards:* The Licensee shall comply with the FCC's cable television customer service and notice regulations codified at 47 C.F.R. § 76.309(c), 47 C.F.R. § 76.1602, and 47 C.F.R. § 76.1603, as amended, and the billing and termination of service provisions contained in 207 CMR § 10.00, as amended; provided, however, that Licensee may satisfy the requirements of 47 C.F.R. § 76.309(c)(1)(v) through its website. Measurement of the telephone availability standards in 47 C.F.R. § 76.309(c)(1)(ii) shall include all calls received by the Licensee at all call centers receiving calls from Subscribers, whether they are answered by a live representative, by an automated attendant, or abandoned after thirty (30) seconds of call waiting.

7.2. *Bill Payment Location:* The Licensee shall have a location reasonably convenient to the Town that shall be open during normal business hours and accessible to Subscribers to make bill payments. (Normal business hours are those hours during which Licensee's retail locations in the community are open to serve customers and absent such a retail location, then those hours most similar businesses in the community are open to serve customers. In all cases, "normal business hours" must include some evening hours at least one night per week and/or some weekend hours.)

7.3. *Outage Credits:* In the event all Cable Service is interrupted for twenty-four (24) or more hours, Licensee will grant affected Subscribers a pro rata credit or rebate.

7.4. *Denial of Service:* Subject to applicable laws and regulations, nothing in these standards shall limit the right of the Licensee to deny Cable Service for non-payment of previously provided Cable Services, refusal to pay any required deposit, theft of Cable Service, damage to the Licensee's equipment, abusive and/or threatening behavior toward the Licensee's employees or representatives, refusal to provide credit history information or refusal to allow the Licensee to validate the identity, credit history and credit worthiness via an external credit agency, or failure to abide by the Licensee's terms and conditions of service.

8. REPORTS AND RECORDS

8.1. *Open Books and Records:* Upon at least thirty (30) business days written notice to the Licensee, the Issuing Authority or its designee shall have the right to inspect the

Licensee's books and records pertaining to the Licensee's provision of Cable Service in the Town as is reasonably necessary to ensure compliance with the terms of this License at an office of the Licensee in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts during its regular corporate business hours and on a reasonable and non-disruptive basis. Such notice shall specifically reference the section or subsection of this License which is under review, so that the Licensee may organize the necessary books and records for appropriate access by the Issuing Authority. The Licensee shall not be required to maintain any books and records for License compliance purposes longer than three (3) years. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary set forth herein, the Licensee shall not be required to disclose information that it reasonably deems to be proprietary or confidential in nature, nor disclose any of its or an Affiliate's books and records not relating to the provision of Cable Service in the Town. If the Licensee believes that the requested information is proprietary or confidential, the Licensee shall provide the following information to the Issuing Authority: (i) specific identification of the information; and (ii) a statement attesting to the reason(s) the Licensee believes the information is confidential. The Issuing Authority shall take reasonable steps consistent with applicable law to protect the proprietary and confidential nature of any books, records, maps, plans or other documents requested by the Issuing Authority that are provided pursuant to this License to the extent they are designated as such by the Licensee. The Licensee shall not be required to provide Subscriber information in violation of Section 631 of the Communications Act, 47 U.S.C. § 551.

8.2. *Copying of Books and Records:* The Town shall have the right to copy any such books and records, at the Town's expense, subject to the Licensee's obligations pursuant to Section 8.1 above, except to the extent that the Town's review as the Issuing Authority is prohibited pursuant to applicable law.

8.3. *Records Required:* The Licensee shall at all times maintain complete and accurate books and records of its business and operations under and in connection with the License. Said records shall include:

8.3.1. Records of all written Complaints for a period of three (3) years after receipt by the Licensee.

8.3.2. Records of outages for a period of three (3) years after occurrence, indicating date, duration, area, and the number of Subscribers affected, type of outage, and cause;

8.3.3. Records of service calls for repair and maintenance for a period of three (3) years after resolution by the Licensee, indicating the date and time service was required, the date of acknowledgment and date and time service was scheduled (if it was scheduled), and the date and time service was provided, and (if different) the date and time the problem was resolved;

8.3.4. Records of installation/reconnection and requests for service extension for a period of three (3) years after the request was fulfilled by the Licensee, indicating the date of request, date of acknowledgment, and the date and time service was extended; and

8.3.5. A map showing the area of coverage for the provisioning of Cable Services.

8.4. *Dual Filings:* Upon written request of the Issuing Authority, the Licensee shall provide a copy of any documents or forms filed by the Licensee with the FCC and/or the DTC that materially pertain to the Licensee's Cable System in the Town.

8.5. *Proof of Performance Tests:* Upon written request of the Issuing Authority, the Licensee shall provide copies of proof of performance tests required by applicable law.

8.6. *Annual Performance Review:* The Issuing Authority or its designee may, at its discretion but not more than once per twelve-month period, hold a performance evaluation session. The purpose of such evaluation session shall be to review the Licensee's compliance with the terms and conditions of this License. The Issuing Authority shall provide the Licensee with thirty (30) days advance written notice of such evaluation session. The Issuing Authority shall provide the Licensee with a written report with respect to the Licensee's compliance within sixty (60) days after the conclusion of such evaluation session.

8.7. *Quality of Service:* If there exists credible evidence which, in the reasonable judgment of the Issuing Authority, casts doubt upon the reliability or technical quality of the Licensee's Cable Services in the Town, then after notice to the Licensee and an opportunity to cure, the Issuing Authority shall have the right to require the Licensee to test, analyze and report in writing on the performance of the Cable System.

9. INSURANCE AND INDEMNIFICATION

9.1. *Insurance:*

9.1.1. Licensee shall maintain in full force and effect, at its own cost and expense (including all deductibles) during the term of this License, the following insurance coverage:

9.1.1.1. Commercial General Liability Insurance in the amount of six million dollars (\$6,000,000) per occurrence for property damage and bodily injury and six million dollars (\$6,000,000) general aggregate. Such insurance shall cover the construction, operation, maintenance and removal of the Cable System, and the conduct of Licensee's Cable Service operations and business in the Town.

9.1.1.2. Commercial Automobile Liability Insurance covering all owned, non-owned, hired and/or rented motor vehicles in the amount of six million dollars (\$6,000,000) combined single limit each accident for bodily injury and property damage coverage.

9.1.1.3. Workers' Compensation Insurance in compliance with the statutory requirements of the state(s) of operation and Employers' Liability Insurance in the following amounts: (A) \$100,000 Bodily Injury by Accident; (B) \$100,000 Bodily Injury by Disease-each employee; and \$500,000 disease-policy limit.

9.1.2. The Town shall be included as an additional insured as their interests may appear under this License on the Commercial General Liability Insurance and Automobile Liability Insurance required herein.

9.1.3. Upon receipt of notice from its insurer(s), Licensee shall provide the Town with thirty (30) days' prior written notice of cancellation of any required coverage.

9.1.4. Each of the required insurance policies shall be with insurers qualified to do business in the State of Massachusetts, with an A.M. Best Financial Strength rating of A-VII or better.

9.1.5. Licensee shall deliver to the Issuing Authority Certificates of Insurance showing evidence of the required coverage.

9.1.6. All insurance shall be primary with respect to any insurance maintained by the Town and shall not call on the Town's insurance for contribution.

9.1.7. The Licensee shall require that every one of its contractors and their subcontractors carry in full force and effect, substantially the same insurance with substantially the same amounts as required of Licensee herein.

9.1.8. Neither this Section 9.1, nor the provision of insurance or insurance proceeds pursuant to this Section 9.1, shall limit the liability of the Licensee or its obligation to indemnify the Town pursuant to this License.

9.2. *Indemnification:*

9.2.1. The Licensee shall, at its sole cost and expense, defend, indemnify and hold harmless the Issuing Authority, the Town, including its officials, boards, commissions, committees, agents and/or employees, against all claims for damage, suits, causes of action, proceedings and judgments, including for damage to Persons or property, real and personal, due to the actions of the Licensee, its employees, officers or agents arising out of the installation, maintenance and/or operation of the Cable System under this License. Indemnified expenses shall include all reasonable attorneys' fees and costs incurred by the Town up to such time that the Licensee assumes defense of any action hereunder. The Town shall give the Licensee timely written notice of its obligation to defend, indemnify and hold harmless the Town, provided that in any event the Town shall provide the Licensee with such written notice within a period of time that allows the Licensee to take action to avoid entry of a default judgment and does not prejudice the Licensee's ability to defend the claim or action.

9.2.2. With respect to the Licensee's indemnification obligations set forth in Section 9.2.1, the Licensee shall, at its own expense, provide the defense of any claims, suits, causes of action or proceedings brought against the Town by selecting counsel of Licensee's choice to defend the claim, subject to applicable professional ethics and responsibility laws and standards and the consent of the Town, which consent shall not unreasonably be withheld. The Licensee shall, subject to the consent of the Issuing Authority as described herein, have the right to defend, settle or compromise any claim or action arising hereunder, and the Licensee shall have

the authority to decide the appropriateness and amount of any such settlement, so long as the settlement includes a full release of the Town with respect to the claim giving rise to Licensee's indemnification obligation. In the event that the Town does not consent to the terms of any such settlement or compromise, the Licensee shall not settle the claim or action but its obligation to indemnify the Town shall in no event exceed the amount of such settlement. Nothing herein shall be deemed to prevent the Issuing Authority from cooperating with the Licensee and participating in the defense of any litigation by its own counsel at its own cost and expense.

9.3. *Performance Bond:* The Licensee shall maintain, without charge to the Town, throughout the term of the License a faithful performance bond running to the Town, with good and sufficient surety licensed to do business in the State in the sum of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000). Said bond shall be conditioned upon the faithful performance and discharge of all of the obligations imposed by this License. The performance bond shall be effective throughout the term of this License and shall be conditioned that in the event that the Licensee shall fail to comply with any one or more provisions of this License, or to comply with any order, permit or direction of any department, agency, commission, board, division or office of the Town having jurisdiction over its acts, or to pay any claims, liens or taxes due the Town which arise by reason of the construction, upgrade, maintenance and/or operation of the Cable System, the Town shall recover from the surety of such bond all damages suffered by the Town as a result thereof, pursuant to Article 11 below. Said bond shall be a continuing obligation of this License, and thereafter until the Licensee has satisfied all of its obligations to the Town that may have arisen from the grant of the License or from the exercise of any privilege herein granted. In the event that a performance bond provided pursuant to this License is not renewed or cancelled, the Licensee shall provide a new performance bond pursuant to this Section 9.3 within thirty (30) days of such failure to renew or cancellation. Neither cancellation, nor termination nor refusal by the surety to extend the bond, nor the inability of the Licensee to file a replacement bond or replacement security for its obligations under this License, shall constitute a loss to the Town recoverable under the bond. Neither this section, any bond accepted pursuant thereto, or any damages recovered thereunder shall limit the liability of the Licensee under the License. Recourse by the Issuing Authority of remedies available under this Section 9.3 shall not be exclusive of other lawful remedies available to the Town at law and equity.

10. RENEWAL OF LICENSE

The Issuing Authority and the Licensee agree that any proceedings undertaken by the Town that relate to the renewal of this License shall be governed by and comply with the provisions of Section 626 of the Communications Act, 47 U.S.C. § 546, and M.G.L. Chapter 166A. The Issuing Authority shall notify the Licensee of any ascertainment proceedings conducted pursuant to Section 626 of the Communications Act, and shall provide the Licensee with a copy of the record of such proceeding.

11. ENFORCEMENT AND TERMINATION OF LICENSE

11.1. *Notice of Violation:* If at any time the Issuing Authority believes that the Licensee has not complied with the terms of this License, the Issuing Authority shall informally discuss the matter with the Licensee. If these discussions do not lead to resolution of the problem

in a reasonable time, the Issuing Authority shall then notify the Licensee in writing of the exact nature of the alleged noncompliance (for purposes of this Article, the “Noncompliance Notice”).

11.2. *The Licensee’s Right to Cure or Respond:* The Licensee shall have thirty (30) days from receipt of the Noncompliance Notice to: (i) respond in writing to the Issuing Authority, if the Licensee contests (in whole or in part) the assertion of noncompliance; (ii) cure such noncompliance; or (iii) in the event that, by its nature, such noncompliance cannot be cured within such thirty (30) day period, initiate reasonable steps to remedy such noncompliance, continue such efforts until said noncompliance is cured as soon as reasonably possible, and notify the Issuing Authority at no more than twenty-one (21) day intervals as to the Licensee’s efforts and progress to remedy such noncompliance. Upon a jointly agreed upon cure of any noncompliance by the Issuing Authority and the Licensee, the Issuing Authority shall provide the Licensee with written confirmation that such cure has been effected.

11.3. *Public Hearing:* In the event that the Licensee fails to respond to the Noncompliance Notice pursuant to the procedures set forth in Section 11.2 above, and/or if the Issuing Authority otherwise seeks to continue its investigation into the alleged noncompliance, then the Issuing Authority shall schedule a public hearing. The Issuing Authority shall provide the Licensee at least thirty (30) days prior written notice of such public hearing, which will specify the time, place and purpose of such public hearing and whether revocation of this License is a possible consequence. At any designated public hearing where revocation of this License is not a possible consequence, the Licensee shall be provided a fair opportunity for full participation, including the right to be represented by legal counsel and to introduce relevant evidence. At any designated public hearing where revocation of this License is a possible consequence, the Licensee shall be provided a fair opportunity for full participation, including the right to be represented by legal counsel and to introduce relevant evidence, and shall also have the right to require the production of evidence, to compel the relevant testimony of the officials, agents, employees or consultants of the Issuing Authority, to compel the testimony of other persons as permitted by law, and to question and/or cross examine witnesses. A complete verbatim record shall be made of such hearing where revocation of the License is a possible consequence. Within thirty (30) days of the close of either type of above hearing, the Issuing Authority shall issue a written determination of its findings.

11.4. *Enforcement:* In the event the Issuing Authority, after the public hearing set forth in Section 11.3 above, determines that the Licensee is in default of any provision of this License, the Issuing Authority may:

11.4.1. Seek specific performance of any provision, which reasonably lends itself to such remedy, as an alternative to damages;

11.4.2. Commence an action at law for monetary damages or seek other equitable relief;

11.4.3. Submit a claim against an appropriate part of the performance bond pursuant to Section 9.3 above;

11.4.4. In the case of a substantial noncompliance of a material provision of this License, seek to revoke this License in accordance with Section 11.5; or

11.4.5. Invoke any other lawful remedy available to the Town.

11.5. *Revocation:* In the event that the Issuing Authority determines that it will revoke this License pursuant to Section 11.4 above, the Licensee may appeal such written determination of the Issuing Authority to an appropriate court or to the Cable Division, which shall, to the extent allowed by applicable law, have the power to review the decision of the Issuing Authority consistent with applicable law and regulation. The Licensee shall be entitled to such relief as the DTC and/or court finds appropriate, subject to the Town's right(s) of appeal under applicable law. Such appeal must be taken within sixty (60) days of the Licensee's receipt of the written determination of the Issuing Authority. The Issuing Authority may, at its sole discretion, take any lawful action that it deems appropriate to enforce the Issuing Authority's rights under this License in lieu of revocation of this License.

12. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

12.1. *Actions of Parties:* In any action by the Issuing Authority or the Licensee that is taken pursuant to the terms of this License, such party shall act in a reasonable, expeditious, and timely manner. Furthermore, in any instance where approval or consent is required by either party under the terms hereof, such approval or consent shall not be unreasonably withheld, delayed or conditioned.

12.2. *Jurisdiction:* Jurisdiction and venue over any dispute, action or suit arising out of this License shall be in a federal or State court of appropriate venue and subject matter jurisdiction located in the State, and the parties hereby agree to be subject to the personal jurisdiction of said court for the resolution of any such dispute.

12.3. *Binding Acceptance:* This License shall bind and benefit the parties hereto and their respective receivers, trustees, successors and assigns, and the promises and obligations contained in Article 9 – Insurance and Indemnification and Article 10 – Performance Bond - herein shall survive the revocation, termination or expiration date hereof.

12.4. *Preemption:* In the event that federal or State law, rules, or regulations preempt a provision or limit the enforceability of a provision of this License, such provision shall be read to be preempted to the extent and for the time, but only to the extent and for the time, required by law. In the event such federal or State law, rule or regulation is subsequently repealed, rescinded, amended or otherwise changed so that the provision herein that had been preempted is no longer preempted, such provision shall thereupon return to full force and effect, and shall thereafter be binding on the parties hereto, without the requirement of further action on the part of the Issuing Authority.

12.5. *Force Majeure:* If by reason of Force Majeure, either party is unable in whole or in part to carry out its obligations hereunder, said party shall not be held in default under, or in noncompliance with, the provisions of the License, nor suffer any enforcement or penalty relating to noncompliance or default, where such noncompliance or alleged defaults were caused

by a Force Majeure, provided that the party takes reasonable steps under the circumstances to comply with the obligations of the License to the maximum extent possible without endangering the health or safety of the Licensee's employees or property, or the health or safety of the Town or the public, or their property. In the event that any such delay in performance or failure to perform affects only part of the party's capacity to perform, the party shall perform to the maximum extent it is able to do so in as expeditious a manner as possible under the circumstances.

12.6. *Acts or Omissions of Affiliates:* During the term of this License, the Licensee shall be liable for the acts or omissions of its Affiliates to the extent arising out of any such Affiliate's operation of the Cable System to provide Cable Services in the Town.

12.7. *Warranties:* Each party hereto warrants, represents and acknowledges to the other party that, as of the Effective Date, such party has the requisite power and authority under applicable law and its organizational documents, if any, and is authorized and has secured all consents which are required to be obtained as of the Effective Date, to enter into and be legally bound by the terms of this License.

12.8. *Delivery of Payments:* Licensee may use electronic funds transfer to make any payments to the Town or Issuing Authority required under this License. Said electronic transfer must be in the form, including necessary explanatory information and documentation, and to the account, all as reasonably required by the Town or Issuing Authority.

12.9. *Notices:* Unless otherwise expressly stated herein, notices required under this License shall be mailed first class, postage prepaid, to the addressees below. Each party may change its designee by providing written notice to the other party.

Notices to the Licensee shall be to:

Verizon New England Inc.
6 Bowdoin Square
10th Floor
Boston, MA 02114
Attention: Niall Connors, Franchise Service Manager

With a copy to:

Verizon
1300 I St. NW
Suite 500 East
Washington, DC 20005
Attention: Tonya Rutherford, VP and Deputy General Counsel

Notices to the Issuing Authority shall be to:

Town of Stow
Town Building
380 Great Road
Stow, MA 01775-2127
Attention: Select Board

With a copy to:

Local Access Channel Advisory Committee
Town of Stow
Town Building
380 Great Road
Stow, MA 01775-2127

12.10. *Entire Agreement:* This License and the Exhibit hereto constitute the entire agreement between the Licensee and the Issuing Authority, and supersede all prior or contemporaneous agreements, representations or understandings (written or oral) of the parties regarding the subject matter hereof and can be amended or modified only by a written instrument executed by both parties except as otherwise provided herein.

12.11. *Captions:* The captions and headings of articles and sections throughout this License are intended solely to facilitate reading and reference to the sections and provisions of this License. Such captions shall not affect the meaning or interpretation of this License.

12.12. *Severability:* If any section, subsection, sentence, paragraph, term or provision hereof is determined to be illegal, invalid, unconstitutional or unenforceable by any court of competent jurisdiction or by any State or federal regulatory authority having jurisdiction thereof, such determination shall have no effect on the validity of any other section, subsection, sentence, paragraph, term or provision hereof, all of which will remain in full force and effect for the term of this License.

12.13. *Recitals:* The recitals set forth in this License are incorporated into the body of this License as if they had been originally set forth herein.

12.14. *No Recourse Against Issuing Authority:* Pursuant to Section 635A(a) of the Communications Act (47 U.S.C. §555(a)), the Licensee shall have no recourse against the Issuing Authority, the Town and/or its officials, members, employees or agents, other than injunctive relief or declaratory relief, arising from the regulation of Cable Service or from a decision of approval or disapproval with respect to a grant, renewal, transfer, or amendment of this License.

12.15. *FTTP Network Transfer Prohibition:* Under no circumstance including, without limitation, upon expiration, revocation, termination, denial of renewal of this License or any other action to forbid or disallow the Licensee from providing Cable Services, shall the Licensee or its assignees be required to sell any right, title, interest, use or control of any portion of the Licensee's FTTP Network including, without limitation, the Cable System and any capacity

used for Cable Service or otherwise, to the Town or any third party. The Licensee shall not be required to remove the FTTP Network or to relocate the FTTP Network or any portion thereof as a result of revocation, expiration, termination, denial of renewal or any other action to forbid or disallow the Licensee from providing Cable Services. This provision is not intended to contravene leased access requirements under Title VI or the PEG requirements set out in this License.

12.16. *Interpretation:* The Issuing Authority and the Licensee each acknowledge that it has received independent legal advice in entering into this License. In the event that a dispute arises over the meaning or application of any term(s) of this License, such term(s) shall not be construed by the reference to any doctrine calling for ambiguities to be construed against the drafter of the License.

12.17. *No Third-Party Beneficiaries:* The provisions of this License are for the benefit of the Licensee and the Issuing Authority and not for any other Person.

12.18. *Counterparts:* This License may be executed in counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original and all of which together shall constitute one and the same instrument. Further, this License may be executed by facsimile, email, electronic signature or other electronic means, and so executed shall have the full force and legal effect as an executed original of this License.

SIGNATURE PAGE FOLLOWS

AGREED TO THIS 12th DAY OF DECEMBER, 2023.

TOWN OF STOW
By its Select Board:


Cortni Frecha, Chair



Megan Birch-McMichael


Ingeborg Hegemann Clark


Hector Constantzos

John Toole

Approved as to legal form:


William H. Solomon
Special Cable Counsel

VERIZON NEW ENGLAND INC.

By: _____
Kevin M. Service, Vice President

Approved as to form:

Pamela N. Goldstein
Verizon Law Department

EXHIBIT

**EXHIBIT A – PUBLIC (MUNICIPAL AND SCHOOL) BUILDINGS TO BE
PROVIDED CABLE SERVICE UPON WRITTEN REQUEST OF THE
ISSUING AUTHORITY (SUBJECT TO SECTION 3.3)**

EXHIBIT A
PUBLIC (MUNICIPAL AND SCHOOL BUILDINGS)
TO BE PROVIDED CABLE SERVICE
UPON WRITTEN REQUEST OF THE ISSUING AUTHORITY
(SUBJECT TO SECTION 3.3)

- (1) Hale Middle School: 55 Hartley Road
- (2) Center School: 403 Great Road
- (3) Pomposicicut School: 511 Great Road
- (4) Town Building: 380 Great Road
- (5) Town Hall: 375 Great Road
- (6) Police Department: 305 Great Road
- (7) Fire Station: 16 Crescent Street
- (8) Randall Library: 19 Crescent Street
- (9) Town Barn: 88 South Acton Road
- (10) Town Beach House: Pine Bluffs Swimming Beach
- (11) West School Museum: Corner of Harvard Road and Hiley Brook Road
- (12) Municipal Garage: 380 Great Road
- (13) The Council on Aging: 509 Great Road
- (14) Senior Center: 509 Great Road

**** And any other public buildings designated by the Issuing Authority**