

RESOLUTION _____

A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TULSA SUPPORTING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A CITY OF TULSA GOVERNMENT ACCESS CHANNEL TO BE BROADCAST ON CABLE TELEVISION CHANNEL 24 STARTING JULY 1, 2004; AND ESTABLISHING PROGRAMMING POLICIES AND PRIORITIES; AND ESTABLISHING A TGOV COORDINATING COMMITTEE TO RECOMMEND AND IMPLEMENT ALL POLICIES AND APPROVE MAJOR OPERATIONAL DECISIONS; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

WHEREAS, a government access channel is one of the three types of "Community Access Channels" first designated under the Cable Communications Policy Act of 1984 to provide residents with local television programs and information over dedicated Public, Educational and Government (PEG) cable channels; and

WHEREAS, government access channels are used by cities and counties across the nation to communicate information to citizens, constituents and employees; and

WHEREAS, the creation of a Tulsa government access cable channel (herein referred to as Tulsa Government Television ("TGOV")) will provide citizens of Tulsa with valuable local government information and will promote a more informed citizenry by providing a greater opportunity for individuals to view government meetings and information; and

WHEREAS, TGOV's specific objectives include:

(a) Providing information about programs and services offered by City departments, authorities, boards, commissions and government-supported agencies, including live broadcasts of a variety of such meetings; and

(b) Expanding citizens' awareness of government and its decision-making processes by exposing them to live and tape delayed government meetings and civic events; and

(c) Enhancing existing public information materials by using cable television as a public information tool; and

(d) Providing and distributing programming of interest to Tulsa residents that will inform, and educate as well as encourage participation in government services, activities and decision making; and

(e) Increase the cost efficiency of service delivery by City departments and agencies.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY OF TULSA, OKLAHOMA:

Section 1. The City of Tulsa, Oklahoma establishes a government channel known as Tulsa Government Television (or "TGOV") to be broadcast on Channel 24 by the local cable provider beginning July 1, 2004.

Section 2. The City of Tulsa hereby establishes a TGOV Coordinating Committee which will be comprised of a designated representative from the Office of the Mayor, a representative of the Tulsa Fire Department and the City Council Administrator or his designee, who shall serve as Chairman of the TGOV Coordinating Committee. The local cable provider will be invited to participate as a non-voting ex-officio member.

The TGOV Coordinating Committee shall recommend approval of all policies not contained herein and approve and coordinate all major operating decisions. The TGOV Coordinating Committee shall meet at least once a month. As situations may dictate, the Chairman of the TGOV Coordinating Committee shall make day-to-day operating decisions as required. No expenditure shall be made in excess of appropriated funds dedicated directly, or indirectly to TGOV.

A TGOV Programming Advisory Committee shall be established with invited representation by all City of Tulsa departments and other public safety agencies. The Programming Advisory Committee shall make recommendations to the TGOV Coordinating Committee. The Council's Community Relations Director or other person designated by the Council Administrator shall serve as Chairman of TGOV's Programming Advisory Committee.

Section 3. The two key operational entities in TGOV are the Tulsa Fire Department and the Tulsa City Council. The Tulsa Fire Department will provide key technical assistance and post production equipment and services, including the transmission of live and taped programming to Cox Cable for broadcast on Channel 24. Tulsa Fire Department will provide access to its production studio(s) on an "as available" basis for live and taped programming.

The Office of the City Council will coordinate live and taped broadcasts from the Francis Campbell City Council Room, and provide camera operator(s) for events in the room and/or use auto/remote-controlled cameras, except instances approved by the Coordination Committee. The City Council will also make available its video taping, production and editing equipment.

Section 4. The Tulsa government channel shall be governed by the following

policies:

(a) NON-EDITORIAL: The channel shall provide direct, non-editorial information from the City or other governmental sources concerning the operations, services and deliberations of government to the citizens of Tulsa;

(b) NON-POLITICAL: The channel is not intended as a mechanism for building support for a particular ballot issue or candidate for public office. This provision does not preclude the broadcasting of non-partisan programs intended to inform the citizens of ballot issues;

Declared candidates for any elective office and persons advocating any cause, viewpoint, or proposed policy of a partisan nature will not be eligible to appear prior to an election unless they appear as part of a forum in which all candidates or sides of an issues are given equal time, or part of a meeting of the City Council or authority, board or commission of the City of Tulsa or otherwise approved by the Coordinating Committee;

Under this policy, a person is considered to be a candidate from the time of announcing publicly for any public office until the election has been held. This policy does not apply to persons who receive incidental air time as part of a public meeting being cablecast on the channel, nor to officials acting as part of their regular duties;

(c) NEUTRALITY: In any programming concerning subjects that may be interpreted to be materially controversial, the TGOV will maintain a position of neutrality, providing unbiased information;

(d) NON-COMMERCIAL: TGOV will not cablecast paid advertising or any program whose primary purpose is to depict a product, business and/or service for the purpose of benefiting a profit-making enterprise;

(e) NON-DISCRIMINATORY: TGOV shall not discriminate in the delivery of its services on the basis of race, color, creed, national origination, sex, religion or physical ability;

(f) LIVE COVERAGE: TGOV will give priority to live coverage of meetings as resources permit;

(g) ACQUIRED OR PRE-PRODUCED PROGRAMMING: To maximize resources, TGOV will seek out high quality pre-produced programming that addresses the needs and interests of the citizens of Tulsa and that meets established priorities. All pre-produced programming must be recommended by the TGOV Programming Advisory Committee and approved by the TGOV Coordinating Committee;

(h) No material which violates local, state or federal law shall be broadcast on TGOV.

Section 5. The Programming Priorities for TGOV shall be:

- (a) In the event of an emergency, TGOV will be made available as needed; emergency information shall have priority over all other programming. TGOV will work with the Mayor and the Director of the Tulsa Area Emergency Management Agency to coordinate the use and programming of the channel during such emergencies;
- (b) Live and taped coverage of public meetings including the City Council, and City boards, authorities and commissions, Mayoral, City Auditor, and Councilor press conferences;
- (c) Meetings and programs sponsored by regional, state and federal agencies dealing with topics pertaining to the City of Tulsa and of general interest to the citizens of Tulsa;
- (d) Coverage of programs, forums and conferences on issues directly affecting the citizens of Tulsa;
- (e) The dissemination of information generated by the programs, services and functions of City departments and other governmental agencies including Homeland Security, citizen education, and related programming;
- (f) Reoccurring programs, information series and special reports or one-time special or non-regular informational programs; and
- (g) Public Service announcements for city services and related programs.

Section 6. That an emergency is hereby declared to exist for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety, by reason whereof this Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption and approval.

Adopted by the Council this _____ day of _____, 2004.

Chairman of the Council

Adopted, with the emergency measure this _____ day of _____, 2004.

Chairman of the Council

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Received by the Mayor: _____, at _____.
Date Time

Bill LaFortune, Mayor

By: _____
Secretary

APPROVED by the Mayor of the City of Tulsa, Oklahoma, this _____ day of _____, 2004.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk

APPROVED:

City Attorney