

RESOLUTION NO. 11-23

**REGARDING SUPPORT FOR H.R. 1746, THE COMMUNITY ACCESS
PRESERVATION ACT**

WHEREAS, The City of Ham Lake, Minnesota (the “City”) is a member of the North Metro Telecommunications Commission (the “Commission”), a municipal joint powers board organized pursuant to a Joint and Cooperative Agreement, as amended (“Agreement”), adopted by the Cities of Blaine, Centerville, Circle Pines, Ham Lake, Lexington, Lino Lakes and Spring Lake Park, Minnesota (the “Member Cities”) pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 471.59; and

WHEREAS, public, educational and government (“PEG”) access channels play a significant role in the City and the other Member Cities; and

WHEREAS, PEG channels are a unique and valuable resource for local information and discourse for the residents of the City; and

WHEREAS, PEG channels cablecast local government meetings, including (but not limited to) City Council, planning commission, county board and school board meetings, so that citizens are informed about the actions taken by local officials; and

WHEREAS, PEG channels contribute to the democratic process by providing opportunities for candidates and others, such as the League of Women Voters, to discuss local issues during election campaigns; and

WHEREAS, PEG channels provide a window through which residents can view the diversity of cultures, recreational activities and artistic endeavors in their local community; and

WHEREAS, PEG channels reflect the unique identity of the communities they serve and produce and disseminate programming that would not otherwise be available to City residents; and

WHEREAS, PEG channels further the important federal objective of assuring that cable communications provide the widest possible diversity of information sources and services to the public; and

WHEREAS, PEG channels help ensure that cable systems are responsive to the needs and interests of the local community; and

WHEREAS, the Commission produces, edits and transmits local video programming for the City and the other Member Cities that is cablecasted on PEG channels, makes video production, editing and studio facilities and equipment available to the City’s residents through the operation of a Community Media Center, and actively promotes the development of locally produced cable television programming that is carried on PEG channels in the City; and

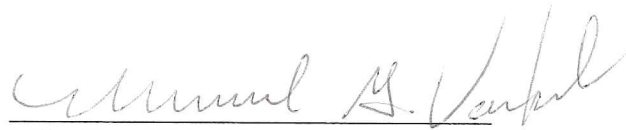
WHEREAS, it is important to preserve and protect PEG channels and funding for PEG channels and PEG facilities, and to ensure that the channels and PEG facilities continue to be available to the entire community in order to serve the residents of the City; and

WHEREAS, H.R. 1746, the Community Access Preservation Act, addresses critical and immediate threats to PEG channels, PEG facilities and PEG access funding, including channels and facilities operated and funded by the City and Commission.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Ham Lake, Minnesota as follows:

1. The City supports immediate passage of H.R. 1746; and
2. The City Council calls on its Congressional delegation to take all possible actions in support of the passage of H.R. 1746, including but not limited to endorsing, co-sponsoring and voting for H.R. 1746, and to work for its rapid passage; and
3. City officers and Commission staff are authorized to take such actions as may be necessary or desirable to support and promote passage of H.R. 1746; and
4. This Resolution shall be effective immediately upon adoption.

Adopted by a unanimous vote of the City of Ham Lake this 6th day of June 2011.


Mike Van Kirk, Mayor


Doris Nivala, Administrator