

STAFF REPORT

City Council Consent Item

DATE: August 23, 2024

TO: Honorable Mayor and Councilmembers

FROM: Amy Nilsen, Interim City Manager

SUBJECT: Access Humboldt Service Agreement

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Approve and authorize the City Manager to sign the attached Service Agreement with Access Humboldt for cable and video services between the cities of Arcata, Eureka, Blue Lake, Fortuna, Ferndale, Rio Dell and the County of Humboldt (Attachment 1) and authorize the City Manager, or designee thereof, to execute any and all amendments to the service agreement, following approval by City Council.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Access Humboldt was formed in 2006 through a community-based effort that included diverse stakeholders and best practice design, to develop and provide public, educational and governmental (PEG) access services and to build sustainable community media and broadband access for Humboldt County and the region. Access Humboldt was designated to manage the Community Media Center and those PEG access channels and resources that were the outcome of franchise renewal process between the county, the cities of Arcata, Blue Lake, Eureka, Ferndale, Fortuna and Rio Dell and Cox Cable, Suddenlink, and now Optimum. The most recent agreement, entered into by the county and six cities, was approved by your Board on December 6, 2021, with a term ending June 30, 2024. Access Humboldt is designated to operate the Community Media Center, to provide PEG access programming and to provide nondiscriminatory access to the equipment, facilities, channels, and other services, as outlined in the attached service agreement, to all residents of the cities and county.

Upon approval, the agreement will be effective for fiscal years 2023-24 through 2029-30. This service agreement comes to the council after the effective date due to delays caused by the contract negotiation process.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The cities and county shall provide Access Humboldt a flat rate of \$36,000 annually during the term of this agreement. Each of the cities and county shall be responsible to pay a share of the total annual cost. The City of Fortuna is responsible for \$4,230, and is included in the adopted budget for fiscal year 2024-25.

RECOMMENDED COUNCIL ACTION:

Approve and authorize the City Manager to sign the attached Service Agreement with Access Humboldt for cable and video services between the cities of Arcata, Eureka, Blue Lake, Fortuna,

Ferndale, Rio Dell and the County of Humboldt (Attachment 1) and authorize the City Manager, or designee thereof, to execute any and all amendments to the service agreement. Consent Agenda vote.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Agreement between the Cities of Arcata, Eureka, Blue Lake, Fortuna, Ferndale, Rio Dell and the County of Humboldt and Access Humboldt