

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION

Resolution authorizing execution of an Interlocal Agreement with Bellevue College renewing the Television Facilities Management Committee (TFMC) for the management and joint use of television production equipment, facilities, and staff.

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City Manager's Office

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The proposed Interlocal Agreement (ILA) is intended to:

1. Provide Bellevue the ability to operate a government access cable television channel (BTV) in a cost-effective fashion.
2. Provide Bellevue College the means and ability to operate a television production training facility and an education access cable television channel in a cost-effective fashion.
3. Foster continued cooperation in the use of the video and television services and the production of video and television programming that benefits Bellevue residents and current as well as prospective Bellevue College students.
4. Maximize the efficiency of resources toward the joint operation of a television studio and cable distribution system house at Bellevue College.
5. Foster continued cooperation in the production of television and video programming production.
6. Provide on-the-job training opportunities to Bellevue College students who will be entering the television and video production job market.

RECOMMENDATION

Move to adopt Resolution No. 10002

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS

The proposed ILA continues a longstanding partnership of 20 years between Bellevue and Bellevue College that has proven beneficial for both. Through this ILA Bellevue gains access to television production studio facilities, workspace for its BTV staff, and access to student labor at a cost that is far less than obtaining these services in-house or via contractors. This means significant cost-savings for both parties involved as well as providing a unique opportunity for students to gain valuable experience by working on regular and ongoing BTV video productions. The successful history of this relationship speaks to its ongoing benefits:

- 2021: ILA renewed for fourth time (current version)
- 2009: ILA renewed for third time
- 2004: ILA renewed for first time
- 2001: Addendum to ILA regarding digital cablecast automation system executed
- 1995: Original ILA executed

The current ILA between Bellevue and Bellevue College is set to expire on October 1.

POLICY & FISCAL IMPACTS

Policy Impact

Bellevue College currently provides television services to Bellevue pursuant to a six-year (2015-2021) ILA. The Interlocal Cooperation Act (RCW 39.34) permits local governmental units to make the most efficient use of their powers by enabling them to cooperate with other localities based on mutual advantage to provide services and facilities in a manner that will work best with geographic, economic, population, and other factors influencing the needs and development of local communities. More specifically, RCW 39.34.060 authorizes Bellevue to appropriate funds and provide personnel, property, and services to a cooperative undertaking such as it currently has with Bellevue College for television services.

Bellevue College Contributions

The proposed ILA specifies that Bellevue College will provide space on its campus for Bellevue's BTV staff. Bellevue College will oversee the purchasing of and provide for the joint use of television and video production facilities. In addition, Bellevue College will provide the labor for maintenance of the aforementioned facilities, as well as custodial services for the space provided. It will also contribute to the anticipated replacement cost of the digital cablecast automation system in the amount of \$9,093 per year (the same as Bellevue) and access to qualified students to serve as production assistants for Bellevue's production needs. This is estimated to save Bellevue tens of thousands of dollars annually in labor costs through the use of students as production assistants rather than Bellevue employees or contractors.

Several non-substantive changes have also been made to the current (2015-2021) version of the ILA. The proposed agreement clarifies fund names and purposes. It also adds a new provisional agreement that Bellevue College would provide some monetary compensation for hiring additional help if minimum student enrollment in the Advanced Track program is not met.

Fiscal Impact

For the next seven years (2022-2028) and upon approval of this ILA, Bellevue will pay Bellevue College an expected annual amount not to exceed \$90,093.¹ The annual amount is broken down as follows: 1) \$21,000 for small-scale equipment maintenance, repair, and replacement costs; 2) \$60,000 for the anticipated replacement cost of large-scale video and television equipment; and 3) \$9,093 for anticipated replacement cost of the digital cablecast automation system. Bellevue's total contribution under this ILA will not exceed \$630,651.

This is the first time that the costs for the television services ILA with Bellevue College have increased since the Agreement was first established in 1995. This request represents a \$16,000 increase in annual costs (a 21 percent increase) to pay annual service agreements costs required for new equipment purchases.

¹ This amount does not include the funding needed to pay Bellevue College students to work on BTV-related projects because this annual cost has ranged between \$5,000 and \$24,000 in the past six years, making it difficult to predict. This is a direct result of the cost being positively correlated with Bellevue's demand for production assistance, demand which is based on needs as they arise.

It is anticipated that funding for the requirements of the ILA will come from the General Fund. Sufficient funds exist within the 2021-2022 General Fund budget to cover the 2022 fees under this ILA. Continuing costs will be included in future biennial budget proposals. It is not expected that funding for this ILA will come from another source at this time, as Bellevue is not currently collecting monthly fees from cable subscribers for Public, Education, and Government Access (PEG Access).

OPTIONS

1. Adopt the Resolution authorizing execution of an Interlocal Agreement with Bellevue College renewing the Television Facilities Management Committee (TFMC) for the management and joint use of television production equipment, facilities, and staff.
2. Do not adopt the Resolution and provide alternative direction to staff.

ATTACHMENTS & AVAILABLE DOCUMENTS

A. 2022-2028 Interlocal Agreement
Proposed Resolution No. 10002

AVAILABLE IN THE COUNCIL LIBRARY

Bellevue College Interlocal Agreement (2015-2021)