

**CITY COUNCIL
COMMUNICATION:**

ITEM _____

**OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER
CITY OF DES MOINES, IOWA**

98-240

SYNOPSIS —

AGENDA:

JUNE 15, 1998

A 60-day extension of the existing Cable Television Franchise Agreement with TCI is recommended in order to complete negotiations and present proposed documents for Council's consideration.

SUBJECT:

CABLE TELEVISION
FRANCHISE
AGREEMENT WITH
TCI

FISCAL IMPACT –

TYPE:

**RESOLUTION
ORDINANCE
RECEIVE/FILE**

N/A

RECOMMENDATION –

SUBMITTED BY:

RICHARD CLARK
DEPUTY CITY
MANAGER

Approval.

BACKGROUND –

On April 6, 1998, the City Council approved a 60-day extension of the Franchise Agreement with TCI. In so acting, Council expressed a strong desire for negotiations to be completed quickly, and directed staff to consider various alternative strategies. Since that action, our negotiations with TCI have been productive and we are now working on the formal Franchise Agreement and associated ordinance. Of particular significance is TCI's apparent willingness to proceed with a major system upgrade which would be well beyond their previously stated plans, and consistent with the City's askings.

In a related matter, on April 28, 1998, McLeod USA announced their intention to seek a cable television franchise agreement with the City of Des Moines. As directed by Council, we have initiated discussion with McLeod representatives.

City staff has been working on preparing a draft franchise agreement with TCI, as well as the regulatory ordinance. However, these documents are not yet completed, and TCI has not had an opportunity to review them. Therefore, we request a 60-day extension (until August 18, 1998) to finalize the documents with TCI and to present them for your review and approval.

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