TOWNSHIP OF LOWER MERION

ADMINISTRATIVE AND HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Wednesday, July 9, 2025 8:00 PM (Approximately)

Chairperson: Jeremiah Woodring

Vice Chairperson: Andrew Gavrin, Anthony Stevenson

<u>AGENDA</u>

1. PUBLIC HEARING - CABLE FRANCHISE RENEWAL WITH COMCAST

AGENDA ITEM INFORMATION

ITEM: PUBLIC HEARING - CABLE FRANCHISE RENEWAL WITH COMCAST

The Committee will conduct a public hearing and solicit citizen testimony regarding a cable franchise renewal between Lower Merion Township and Comcast Corporation.

PUBLIC COMMENT

ATTACHMENTS:

Description Type

☐ Issue Briefing - Comcast Renewal Public Hearing Issue Briefing

TOWNSHIP OF LOWER MERION

Administrative & Human Resources Committee

Issue Briefing

Topic: Public Hearing Regarding a Cable Franchise Renewal with Comcast

Prepared by: Brandon J. Ford, Assistant Township Manager

Date: July 3, 2025

I. Action To Be Considered By The Board:

Conduct a public hearing and solicit citizen testimony regarding a cable franchise renewal between Lower Merion Township and Comcast Corporation.

II. Why This Issue Requires Board Consideration:

Chapter 140, Article II of the Code of Lower Merion Township requires cable providers to enter into a Cable Franchise Agreement with the Township in order to have the right to own, construct, operate, and maintain the infrastructure needed along the public rights-of-way in the Township to provide cable services to the community.

The existing twelve-year agreement with Comcast was adopted by the Board of Commissioners in 2014 and scheduled to expire in 2026.

III. Current Policy Or Practice (If Applicable):

This public hearing is a necessary, initial step in the cable franchise renewal process in which the Township invite residents to provide feedback on the cable operator's past performance and identifies future cable-related community needs.

IV. Other Relevant Background Information:

The Township contracted with Cohen Law Group (CLG) earlier this year to initiate negotiations to renew the Comcast Cable Franchise Agreement. Although preliminary conversations have taken place, any comments received during the public hearing can be related to CLG and used in drafting the contents of any potential cable franchise renewal agreement.

V. Impact on Township Finances:

There is no direct impact on Township finances from this public hearing.

VI. Staff Recommendation:

There is no staff recommendation given that this item is a public hearing to solicit input from residents that can be conveyed by Township staff and contracted parties during cable franchise negotiations with Comcast.