

Franchise and Concession Review Committee Public Hearing  
May 9, 2016

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PUBLIC HEARING  
FRANCHISE AND CONCESSION REVIEW COMMITTEE  
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2 Lafayette Street  
New York, New York 10007

Monday, May 9, 2016  
2:42 p.m.

APPEARANCES:

- Mayor: Peter Hatch
- Office of the Mayor: Benjamin Furnas
- Corporation Counsel: Sharon Cantor
- Office of Management and Budget: Yvonne Quintian
- Comptroller: Richard Friedman
- Bronx Borough President: Raymond Sanchez
- Brooklyn Borough President: Andrew Gounardes
- Manhattan Borough President: James Caras
- Queens Borough President: Angelina Martinez-Rubio
- Staten Island Borough President: James Shipp
- Clerk: Stephanie Ruiz

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Franchise and Concession Review Committee Public Hearing  
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MR. HATCH: Good afternoon. The Public Hearing will now come to order. Will the Clerk please call the roll.

MS. RUIZ: Mayor.

MR HATCH: Here.

MS. RUIZ: Office of the Mayor.

MR. FURNAS: Here.

MS. RUIZ: Comptroller.

MR. FRIEDMAN: Here.

MS. RUIZ: Corporation Counsel.

MS. CANTOR: Here.

MS. RUIZ: Office of Management and Budget.

MS. QUINTIAN: Here.

MS. RUIZ: President, Borough of the Bronx.

MR. SANCHEZ: Here.

MS. RUIZ: President, Borough of Brooklyn.

MR. GOUNARDES: Present.

MS. RUIZ: President, Borough of Manhattan.

MR. CARAS: Here.

MS. RUIZ: President, Borough of

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Queens.

MS. MARTINEZ-RUBIO: Here.

MS. RUIZ: President, Borough of  
Staten Island.

MR. SHIPP: Here.

MR. HATCH: Welcome to this Public  
Hearing of the Franchise and Concession  
Review Committee. The hearing being  
conducted today has been publicly  
advertised in accordance with the New York  
City Charter.

We want to be sure that anyone  
desiring to be heard has an opportunity to  
do so. All persons wishing to speak must  
fill out a request slip, which may be  
obtained by the Clerk. Each speaker will  
be allotted approximately three minutes.  
When you testify, please state your name  
and affiliation, if any. You may also  
submit written testimony to the Clerk  
which will be made part of the record.  
Any written submissions must be made  
before the close of the Public Hearing.

Will the Clerk please call the first

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calendar item.

MS. RUIZ: New York City Department of Information Technology and Telecommunications Calendar Item No. 1: In the matter of the intent to seek Franchise and Concession Review Committee review relating to a proposed change of control of a cable television franchise held by Cablevision Systems New York City Corporation, or Cablevision, in Brooklyn, whereby Cablevision will be ultimately controlled in majority by Altice NV and its parent entities.

MR. HATCH: Does anyone wish to testify?

MS. RUIZ: Bethsy Morales-Reid.

MS. MORALES-REID: Thank you. On behalf of the Hispanic Federation, I appreciate the opportunity to weigh in on the proposed Cablevision/Altice transaction. The Hispanic Federation is a network of Latino-serving non-profit agencies that serve the most vulnerable members of our community. We advocate

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nationally on vital issues including education, health, immigration, economic empowerment, civic engagement, and environment.

As a national advocacy organization, the Hispanic Federation has been a proud partner with Cablevision and a benefactor of its charitable support for the Hispanic community. Cablevision is a strong community partner and a great corporate citizen; a partner that does not only focus on its products and services, but gives back to our community in substantive ways. The community has been open to using -- I'm sorry, the Company has been opened to using its programming assets, production capabilities, and charitable generosity to support our member organizations and the important support services they provide to the two million Latinos in New York-Metro area.

Specifically, Cablevision has hosted televised Town Hall events, produced entirely in Spanish, to deliver important

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1 news reporting to the Hispanic community.  
2 They have also produced Public Service  
3 Announcements, which provide important  
4 marketing support for our member  
5 non-profit groups, and have also aired  
6 documentaries in Cablevision's local  
7 programming stations that tell the story  
8 of Latino immigration in New York.  
9

10 In the programming arena, Cablevision  
11 has worked to ensure that the diverse  
12 Hispanic communities in New York City have  
13 access to exclusive Spanish-language  
14 programming. The current package, with  
15 over 55 channels, feature in-language  
16 networks from Latin America, South  
17 America, the Caribbean, Spain, Puerto  
18 Rico, Dominican Republic, and Mexico, as  
19 well as unlimited use of World Picks  
20 Latino on Demand, a unique  
21 Spanish-language Video on Demand service.  
22 In addition to the Spanish-language  
23 package channels, Cablevision also carries  
24 popular channels like Univision,  
25 Galavision, Telemundo, Estrella, Exitos

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TV, Mundo Fox, UniMAS, Vme, HBO Latino, and a robust offering of Spanish-language Movies on Demand.

I'm pleased that a company like Altice, a strong global communications company with operations in eight countries, including the Dominican Republic, has chosen to make New York the base of its US operations. Altice is expected to bring a fresh perspective based on its experience in diverse, highly competitive markets around the world. We at the Hispanic Federation look forward to learning more about the company's planned commitments to investments in networks, service innovation, and high quality local, national, and international content. We also understand that the company is well resourced and we are optimistic that they will continue Cablevision's long-standing tradition of generosity to community organizations.

Finally, Cablevision is known for attracting and retaining a diverse and

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capable workforce here in New York. With Altice's plans to headquarter its US operations in New York, the Hispanic Federation will be eager to learn more about Altice's specific plans for investing in a diverse and highly trained workforce.

We look forward to beginning a new partnership with Altice to ensure that Cablevision's legacy of support to the Hispanic community and service to all its customers is maintained. Thank you.

MR. HATCH: Thank you. Will the Clerk please call the next person who wishes to testify.

MS. RUIZ: Melissa Chapman.

MS. CHAPMAN: Good afternoon, committee and guests. My name is Melissa Chapman and I serve as the Senior Vice President for Public Affairs at the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce. This testimony is being delivered on behalf of our President and CEO, Carlo Scissura.

The Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce is a

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1  
2 membership-based, business assistance  
3 organization that represents the interests  
4 of over 2,200 member businesses, as well  
5 as other businesses across the borough of  
6 Brooklyn. The Brooklyn Alliance is a  
7 not-for-profit, economic development  
8 organization of the Brooklyn Chamber,  
9 which works to address the needs of  
10 businesses through direct assistance  
11 programs.

12 We're here today to express our  
13 support for the proposed change of  
14 control, whereby Cablevision will be  
15 ultimately controlled in majority part by  
16 Altice NV and its parent entities. As the  
17 voice of the Brooklyn business community,  
18 we believe our members and local economy  
19 will benefit from the enhanced competition  
20 and innovation that will result from this  
21 transaction.

22 Economic growth is reliant upon a  
23 world class infrastructure system that  
24 prioritizes connectivity and broadband  
25 accessibility. Cablevision's long history

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of serving customers in Brooklyn with a wide variety of product offerings has been an integral part of that infrastructure. We are pleased that a company with Altice's global presence, history of investment, and deep experience in the communications market will be their new partner. Having a new partner with these characteristics is the best outcome of this change of control.

Overall, it is our belief that this transaction will enhance competition, drive innovation, and contribute to economic growth in Brooklyn. As such, we respectfully urge that you approve this proposed change of control.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in this matter.

MR. HATCH: Thank you. Will the Clerk please call the next person who wishes to testify.

MS. RUIZ: Leslie Schultz.

MS. SCHULTZ: Good afternoon. I'm Leslie Schultz, the President of BRIC.

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BRIC is the leading presenter of free cultural programming in Brooklyn and is honored to serve as the community access organization for the borough. BRIC is dedicated to amplifying and enabling diverse artistic and community voices, and to sustaining community through arts and media. We are deeply grateful for the long-standing support of our work by Mayor de Blasio, Borough President Eric Adams, and Comptroller Scott Stringer. It is this support that makes our work in community media and in the arts possible.

We thank the members of the Franchise and Concession Review Committee for holding this hearing to consider the proposed Cablevision/Altice merger. These hearings are of vital importance for all of New York City.

Cablevision provides major meaningful support to BRIC's work to bridge the digital divide through vital education programs, to enable community voices, to amplify the work of Brooklyn non-profits,

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and to shine a spotlight on matters of concern and interest to Brooklynites. Brooklyn is greatly served by that work and it is vital the work continue.

Our grant agreement with Cablevision helps us bridge the digital divide through classes taken by more than 5,000 adults yearly, and through classes offered at dozens of public schools where we teach thousands of students every school year.

BRIC's television studios, location equipment, media lab, and edit suites are all offered free of charge to Brooklyn residents and community organizations to create their own media. We are open seven days a week to accommodate the schedules of working-class people and students.

To enable us to reach individuals through our borough of two-and-a-half million people, and with Cablevision's support, BRIC has formed an important partnership with the Brooklyn Public Library, and thus is able to offer convenient video and social media classes

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at library branches across the borough.

Our new BRIC TV initiatives provides vital, hyper-hyper local, in-depth media coverage of Brooklyn neighborhoods, issues, culture, and people; coverage which is otherwise entirely absent from the landscape. Over 2,000 Brooklyn-based guests have appeared on our live daily show, and our BRIC TV Civic Affairs programming highlights civic events, live debates, and interviews with local elected officials.

BRIC also provides media capacity building services to under-resourced non-profits. For example, through BRICs Media Share program, we offer non-profits in the borough in-kind grants to create video to advance their work.

New York City's public access community will be well-served by this merger if Altice commits to continue Cablevision's work, most specifically by providing stable financial support for Public Access services regardless of any

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shift in the cable markets.

Based on recent assurances from Cablevision, we are confident that Altice is prepared to continue funding public access, at least at current levels. Based on those assurances, we're very pleased to add our voices in support of the proposed transaction. Thank you very much.

MR. HATCH: Thank you. Will the Clerk please call the next person who wishes to testify.

MS. RUIZ: Samantha Dodds.

MS. DODDS: Good afternoon, I'm Samantha Dodds, the Director of Corporate Relations at Brooklyn Public Library. I'm here today to speak on behalf of Brett D. Robinson, the Library's Executive Vice President of Finance and Administration.

On behalf of Brooklyn Public Library, I'm expressing our support for Cablevision and its proposed acquisition by Altice. Brooklyn Public Library has endured a robust partnership with Cablevision for many years. The company provides Optimum

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Ultra 101 broadband access to all of the 42 branches in its service area at no charge. Patrons are able to access the service wirelessly and on our desktop computers.

For several years Cablevision's Optimum Community program has hosted an annual summer reading event with NBA great, John Starks, at a BPL branch, most recently Coney Island Library. Optimum Community's Neighborhood Journal has raised awareness of library initiatives with coverage of our summer reading kick-off, Brooklyn Cultural Adventures program, and the annual Brooklyn Classic Fundraiser.

We are pleased that Altice, with its experience, resources, and history of innovation, will be our new partner. We believe that company will continue to invest in Brooklyn with broadband infrastructure and community programming. Thank you.

MR. HATCH: Thank you. Will the

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Clerk please call the next person who wishes to testify.

MS. RUIZ: Dr. Hazel Dukes.

DR. DUKES: Good afternoon, and thank you very much for inviting us to testify at this important meeting.

I'm Hazel Dukes. I'm President of NAACP New York State Conference, with 15 branches within the borough of the City and Nassau and Suffolk County.

Over the years we've had a good relationship with Cablevision. Our mission is to ensure educational, political, and social, and economic equality for the rights of all persons, and to eliminate racial discrimination. We found with Cablevision, they are viewing for our communities and our support. So therefore, I'm here today to support this proposed transition.

Our organization has worked with Cablevision for over ten years, and their support, along with the support of many other generous organizations and

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individuals, has allowed us to service our residents and members, thousands of New Yorkers. So we are pleased with the company, Altice, expansion and we hope that you, the Commission, will see this as a valuable entity for all New Yorkers.

Thank you so much, and we encourage you to support this transaction.

MR. HATCH: Thank you. Will the Clerk please call the next person who wishes to testify.

MS. RUIZ: Bob Master.

MR. MASTER: Good afternoon. My name is Bob Master, I'm Assistant to the Vice President for CWA District 1, which represents 30,000 workers who live and work in New York City, and 140,000 public and private sector workers from New Jersey to Maine. Thank you for the opportunity to speak to you today.

The Communications Workers of America is pleased to endorse the sale of Cablevision to Altice, and we urge the Committee to approve the transfer of the

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franchise between the two companies today.  
We believe that this transaction is in the  
best interest of both New York City  
telecommunications consumers and the 250  
workers we represent at Cablevision's  
operations in Brooklyn.

As most of you know, the course of  
labor management relations over the last  
four years in Brooklyn has been, shall we  
say, less than smooth. Therefore, we are  
very pleased to inform you that CWA and  
Altice have negotiated an extension of the  
current collective bargaining agreement  
that guarantees three years of job  
stability and includes several significant  
improvements in wages and contract  
language. In addition, the agreement,  
which will take effect upon completion of  
the Cablevision/Altice sale, includes a  
resolution of all outstanding legal issues  
between the parties, including several  
ongoing National Labor Relations Board  
proceedings.

We believe that thanks to cooperative

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approach taken by Altice, we have turned the page on the labor relations challenges of the past in Brooklyn Cablevision, and have good reason to hope that a new day has begun. Parallel to the negotiations with CWA, Altice has engaged in dialog with the City of New York about its public interest commitments. We believe that DoITT and the City have done an excellent job ensuring that the needs of New York City's cable consumers in Brooklyn and the Bronx are being protected. In short, this deal is good for all New Yorkers.

In light of this, we support the most expeditious resolution of the transaction, and we believe once the Public Service Commission completes its review of the sale, and imposes whatever conditions it chooses to impose, the transaction should close.

In closing, let me reiterate the support of the CWA for the Cablevision/Altice transaction today. We urge you to approve the deal. Thank you

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fort opportunity to testify.

MR. HATCH: Thank you. Will the Clerk please call the next person who wishes to testify.

MS. RUIZ: Anne Roest.

MS. ROEST: So thank you to all who have testified here, and thank you for the comments regarding our efforts to ensure that we are protecting the rights of the consumers in the City. We do hope that this transaction will be approved with a condition, that we get a chance to review the approval of the FCRC for their conditions they may set around protection of the jobs that are customer facing.

We want to ensure that we continue to protect rights of the consumers in the City. We think the condition is an important one, to ensure that post approval we get to review the conditions that were set. We will be expedient in that review and approval, but we do think it's important that this is passed with a condition that we get a chance to review

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the conditions that are set around  
maintaining jobs to protect the consumer  
service in the City.

So thank you for your consideration,  
we would like this to pass. We would like  
it to pass with a condition, as proposed,  
and with a side letter that we'll be  
submitting. Thank you.

MR. HATCH: Thank you, Commissioner.  
Will the Clerk please call the next person  
who wishes to testify.

MS. RUIZ: At this time, we'd like to  
recognize Maya Wiley.

MS. WILEY: Good afternoon. In  
addition to the comments that Anne made, I  
wanted to add a little bit of detail  
around why, for the City, it's so  
important not to have an approval that  
would take action merely because the PSC  
comes to agreement on the transaction.  
And the primary reason is that, as Anne  
stated, the Commissioner of DoITT, it's  
critically important that we ensure that  
our residents, the people of the City of

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New York, actually get timely and effective service. It is absolutely our hope, thanks to Altice's coming to the table and being very transparent, that that's something that can happen fairly rapidly, assuming all that we've heard to date turns out to transpire at the PSC level.

It's simply the job of the Department -- DoITT -- I always switch your T's -- it's really critically important for DoITT to exercise the over site to ensure that our residents are treated equitably. Remember that both in terms of Brooklyn and the Bronx, these are both areas in which we are actively and aggressively pursuing compliance of Verizon over the commitments it made to the City to serve low-income residents. We are simply trying to ensure that since there's not sufficient competition as of yet, we're still working on Verizon, that to the extent Cablevision, and now Altice, will step into its role, that DoITT can ensure

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that customer service will be speedy,  
adequate, and meet the terms of the  
franchise.

DoITT has committed to doing that  
expeditiously upon a process of the PSC,  
but we believe it's absolutely in the  
interest of the City of New York and our  
residents that we do that. Thank you very  
much.

MR. HATCH: Thank you, Counsel Wiley.  
Will the Clerk please call the next person  
who wishes to testify.

MS. RUIZ: Let the record reflect  
that written testimony was submitted on  
behalf of Sister Dolores F. Crepeau of Our  
Lady of Guadeloupe in favor of Calendar  
Item No. 1. Let the record -- that  
statement will be streamlined to the  
members.

Let the record also reflect that  
written testimony was submitted by Sonya  
Shields on behalf of Brooklyn Community  
Services, on behalf -- in favor of  
Calendar Item No. 1. That statement, as

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well, will be shared with the members.

MR. HATCH: If no one else wishes to speak, will the Clerk please call the second calendar item.

MS. RUIZ: New York City Department of Information Technology and Telecommunications Calendar Item No. 2: In the matter of the intent to seek Franchise and Concession Review Committee review relating to a proposed change of control of a cable television franchise held by Cablevision Systems New York City Corporation, or Cablevision, in the Bronx, whereby Cablevision will be ultimately controlled majority in part by Altice NV and its parent entities.

MR. HATCH: Does anyone wish to testify?

MS. RUIZ: Alice Marie Giordano.

MS. GIORDANO: Good afternoon. I'm Alice Marie Giordano from the Academy of Mount St. Ursula, a catholic high school for young women in the Bronx. Thank you for this opportunity.

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Conducted in the Ursulan tradition, our schools serve college-bound women of diverse cultures by instilling a love of learning and a broader global view. In a family atmosphere, we strive to empower young women for leadership in society.

I'm here today in support of the proposed acquisition of Cablevision by Altice because I believe that this transaction will allow our valued relationship with Cablevision to continue and thrive for many years to come. Our school has enjoyed a strong partnership with Cablevision for many years. Through Cablevision's Optimum Community program, the Academy of Mount St. Ursula students have participated in Charity Champions for several years. This program has fostered school spirit, inspired and supported charitable work for our young women, and benefited many local charities. Charity Champions has helped raise awareness for critical issues in our local communities and demonstrates Cablevision's commitment

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to our communities it serves. Our school has been featured on Optimum Community Neighborhood Journal Show, highlighting the efforts and achievements of our students.

We look forward to the fact that a company such as Altice will be our new partner in these type of community initiatives. We believe that working with an organization like Altice will be a positive outcome from the sale of Cablevision, and we look forward to expanding upon our partnership with them. As such, I encourage the New York City Franchise and Concession Review Committee to approve this transaction. Thank you.

MR. HATCH: Thank you. Will the Clerk please call the next person who wishes to testify.

MS. RUIZ: Michael Max Knobbe.

MR. KNOBBE: BronxNet, a community media network serving the people of the Bronx, thanks the New York City Franchise and Concession Review Committee for

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holding these important hearings.

Hello. I'm Michael Max Knobbe,  
Executive Director of BronxNet. We are  
the not-for-profit network providing  
public services including access to  
technology, studios, and channels with  
workforce development opportunities for  
high school and college students.  
BronxNet televises diverse award-winning  
programs across a spectrum of media,  
including six cable television channels  
that help connect one of the diverse  
counties in the nation to the world.

We ask that Altice not only be asked  
to adhere to the current agreements in  
place with BronxNet and other community  
access organizations serving the City, but  
also to express their view on continued  
and expanded support for BronxNet beyond  
the current agreements, including plans  
for subscriber-based and capital support,  
as well as technological growth that keeps  
pace with the times in terms of channel  
delivery.

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It is imperative that community media channels not be left behind, but be transmitted in High Definition, which is at least equitable with the broadcast TV resolutions of the times. By June, BronxNet will have the ability to add all of its channels to our existing digital MPG2 transport stream transmission. If the headend -- if the Cablevision headend remains status quo, the signals for our channels would be regrettably down converted prior to encode to the headend, and we are an HD native facility. HD is the quality that viewers have come to expect and it is important that our channels are televised through High Definition.

Through BronxNet's public access facilities, we train the public in media production by providing television, studio, and field production workshops, and enabling access to technology, as well as the acquisition of valuable workforce development skills. People completing the

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1 training can utilize media production  
2 equipment at no cost to produce programs  
3 and share diverse, ultra-local content  
4 that contributes to community development  
5 through media. It is important to  
6 consider how media literacy, access to  
7 broadband and technology, along with the  
8 related skills, are increasingly more  
9 essential for participation in  
10 contemporary civic and economic life, and  
11 BronxNet is an anchor institution serving  
12 a vital role in the technology future of  
13 the Bronx and this great city.

14  
15 As times and technology change,  
16 BronxNet works to stay leading edge as we  
17 enhance our public services in the Bronx.  
18 We promote media literacy and we're  
19 continually upgrading our production  
20 equipment to help Bronxites keep pace and  
21 access technology that might otherwise be  
22 out of reach. We've trained over 3,000  
23 high school and college students in media  
24 production, and we've trained thousands  
25 more members of the public. With the

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1  
2 opening of our new media production  
3 facility in the East Bronx at Mercy  
4 College at the Hutch-Metro Center, and  
5 with planned upgrades to our network  
6 operations at Lehman College via capital  
7 allocations from Bronx Borough President  
8 Ruben Diaz, Jr., and the City of New York,  
9 we are creating more venues, including  
10 studios equipped with the latest  
11 technology, and other places of assembly  
12 where Bronx residents can create unique  
13 programs including those with live  
14 community audiences.

15 BronxNet is producing more programs  
16 in partnership with the organizations that  
17 serve our borough resulting in educational  
18 content that strengthens civic  
19 participation. One example is the Viewer  
20 Voter Guide that we do with the  
21 non-partisan organization, New York City  
22 Votes.

23 Since its inception, BronxNet has  
24 collaborated closely with high schools and  
25 institutions of higher learning. The

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people we serve include a cross-section of the very diverse population of our borough. Civic, knowledge industry, creative economy, and human services, the agencies and institutions seeking to communication with the borough, region, and the world, rely on our channels and services, and we help to build a thriving public access media network with our neighbors where people work together and utilize this vehicle of free speech positively to improve outcomes and effect workforce and community development.

We thank New York City for supporting community media and the Mayor and the Commissioners. We look forward to partnering with Altice, should the sale go through. Many positive results have come out of our relationship of over two decades with Cablevision. We ask that Altice work with BronxNet in the scope of transfer to plan for the continuation and enhancement of the vital public services that BronxNet provides for the benefit of

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the community. Thank you and keep all  
City and Bronx strong.

MR. HATCH: Thank you. Will the  
Clerk please call the next person who  
wishes to testify.

MS. RUIZ: Phil Cardone.

MR. CARDONE: Hi. Phil Cardone from  
the Bronx Chamber of Commerce, reading a  
prepared statement by my president who  
could not be here today.

Hi, my name is Nunzio Del Greco. As  
President and CEO of the Bronx Chamber of  
Commerce, I encourage the Franchise and  
Concession Review Committee to approve the  
acquisition of Cablevision by Altice.

The Bronx Chamber's main mission is  
to support the local economy by supporting  
and promoting businesses in the Bronx.  
Altice has voluntarily chosen to acquire  
Cablevision and operate in the Bronx, and  
the Chamber welcomes them.

Cablevision has been a member of the  
Chamber and a partner of our Bronx  
communities for over a decade, providing

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free video services to our local public schools and municipal agencies and free Internet service to our Community Boards. The Chamber has directly partnered with Cablevision on our directory of Bronx businesses, student scholarships, and many other local business events.

Altice's plans to build fibre deeper into the network, develop innovative services, and offer an affordable broadband service will be a valuable contribution towards the telecommunications infrastructure that the Bronx strives toward.

Cablevision's long history of serving customers in the Bronx, and Altice's communications market experience and commitment to continue that legacy is in line with the Bronx Chamber's commitment to encourage competition, innovation, and access to broadband.

We look forward to working with Altice and we are convinced this transaction will offer opportunity and

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contribute to the economic development of  
the Bronx.

It is our hope the Franchise and  
Concession Review Committee agrees and  
approves the acquisition of Cablevision by  
Altice. Thank you.

MR. HATCH: Thank you. Will the  
Clerk please call the next person who  
wishes to testify.

MS. RUIZ: Ines Zayas.

MS. ZAYAS: Good afternoon. My name  
is Ines Zayas, and I'm Special Assistant  
to Daniel Quintero, he's the Executive  
Director of the Kips Bay Boys and Girls  
Club. I'm here to make a brief statement  
on his behalf in support of the proposed  
acquisition of Cablevision by Altice.

The mission of the Kips Bay Boys &  
Girls Club is to enrich and enhance the  
quality of life for young people by  
providing educational and developmental  
programs that promote the general health,  
educational advancement, character  
development, and leadership potential of

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youth between the ages of 6 and 18. Our programs instill a sense of confidence, a sense of belonging, and a sense of power and influence in young people. The work we do at Kips Bay would not be possible without the support of our partners in the private sector.

Cablevision has supported the youth of Kips Bay for many years with charitable contributions and valuable media coverage of our programs and events. This is why Mr. Catero is in support of the proposed acquisition of Cablevision by Altice. He understands that Altice has a proven track record of providing innovative telecommunications services, and that Altice has committed some investments in the markets served by Cablevision, including the communities Kips Bay services.

We at Kips Bay are excited about the evolution of our partnership with Cablevision and look forward to working with Altice in the future. It is in the

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spirit of partnership that we encourage the Franchise Concession Review Committee to approve this transaction. Thank you.

MR. HATCH: Thank you. Will the Clerk please call the next person who wishes to testify.

MS. RUIZ: Let the record reflect that written testimony was submitted by Yoram Roschwalb of SAR High School in favor of Calendar Item No. 2. That written testimony will be shared with the committee members.

MR. HATCH: If no one else wishes to speak --

MR. SANCHEZ: I have a question. All the testimony is done, correct?

So for my advocacy, mechanically understanding how in the event we were to vote on this Wednesday for a conditional approval based on this subsequent agreement that DoITT be amendable or in favor of a staff retention number agreed upon between Altice and the Public Service Commission, correct? That is the ask,

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correct?

MS. WILEY: Correct.

MR. SANCHEZ: So help me understand that in the event that the number or the agreement is not to do with satisfactions or to the City's satisfaction, how that conditional approval would play out? Would we have to come back here, have another vote? Would they be considered in breach of the approval? Help me understand that.

MS. WILEY: That's a very good question. The short answer is that essentially we would -- the approval would not yet be in effect. So what would essentially happen is we'd have discussions with Altice/Cablevision about what would satisfy the City in terms of staffing level sufficiency to meet each customer service obligation. And then at the point that we have that, then DoITT could make the approval -- actually have the approval go into effect. Of course the FCRC would be informed of the outcome

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of those discussions in advance of that process, but there would not be a need for formal process if DoITT came to an agreement with Cablevision/Altice.

MR. SANCHEZ: As an attorney, we always have to figure out when things go wrong, 'cause they state it's voting May 19th approximately?

MS. WILEY: It's currently scheduled for the 19th.

MR. SANCHEZ: And from now to then the agreement isn't to your satisfaction, then our conditional approval would not have ever taken place, and then we're going to have to go at this yet another time. So why wouldn't we vote after -- why are we voting this month? Wouldn't it make more sense to vote after that number, that agreement has been established? Are their legal ramifications why it needs to be done before or after?

MS. WILEY: Our understanding, quite frankly, from -- and Altice could speak to this on its own -- was that they, because

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we've already put the matter over twice,  
they were anxious to conclude the matter.  
So this was our way of being a -- to  
protecting the interests of the residents  
of the City of New York at the same time  
we were being expeditious.

MS. ROEST: Understand we've had a  
lot of conversations about Cablevision,  
and we came to agreement on all the other  
outstanding issues, so there's one issue  
it's looking like it's going to come to  
closer. This seemed like a reasonable  
approach.

MR. SANCHEZ: Okay. So we're voting  
on -- we would be voting on Wednesday for  
a conditional, essentially saying that  
once that number is agreed upon, then our  
approval goes into effect?

MS. WILEY: Correct.

MR. SANCHEZ: Okay, I'm good. Thank  
you for answering my question.

MR. HATCH: If no one wishes to  
speak, that concludes today's hearing. We  
ask that the Reporter make the entire

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Public Hearing Agenda, which was made  
publicly available and distributed at this  
hearing, part of the final record of the  
proceeding. The hearing is now closed.

Thank you.

(Time noted: 3:20 p.m.)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

STATE OF NEW YORK            )  
  )  ss.:  
COUNTY OF QUEENS            )

I, NICOLE ELLIS, a Notary Public for and within  
the State of New York, do hereby certify:

I reported the proceedings in the within-entitled  
matter, and that the within transcript is a true  
record of such proceedings.

I further certify that I am not related to any of  
the parties to this action by blood or by marriage  
and that I am in no way interested in the outcome of  
this matter.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand  
this 15th day of May 2016.

  
NICOLE ELLIS

**Franchise and Concession Review Committee Public Hearing  
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**PUBLIC HEARING**

**FRANCHISE AND CONCESSION REVIEW COMMITTEE**

**MONDAY, MAY 9, 2016 @ 2:30 P.M.**

**2 LAFAYETTE, NEW YORK, NY**

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*Franchise and Concession Review Committee Joint Public Hearing  
Monday, May 9, 2016 @ 2:30 P.M.*

**NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

**No. 1:** **IN THE MATTER** of the intent to seek Franchise and Concession Review Committee review relating to a proposed change of control of a cable television franchise held by Cablevision Systems New York City Corporation (Cablevision) in Brooklyn whereby Cablevision will be ultimately controlled in majority part by Altice N.V and its parent entities.

**NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

**No. 2:** **IN THE MATTER** of the intent to seek Franchise and Concession Review Committee review relating to a proposed change of control of a cable television franchise held by Cablevision Systems New York City Corporation (Cablevision) in the Bronx whereby Cablevision will be ultimately controlled in majority part by Altice N.V and its parent entities.