



Article 20

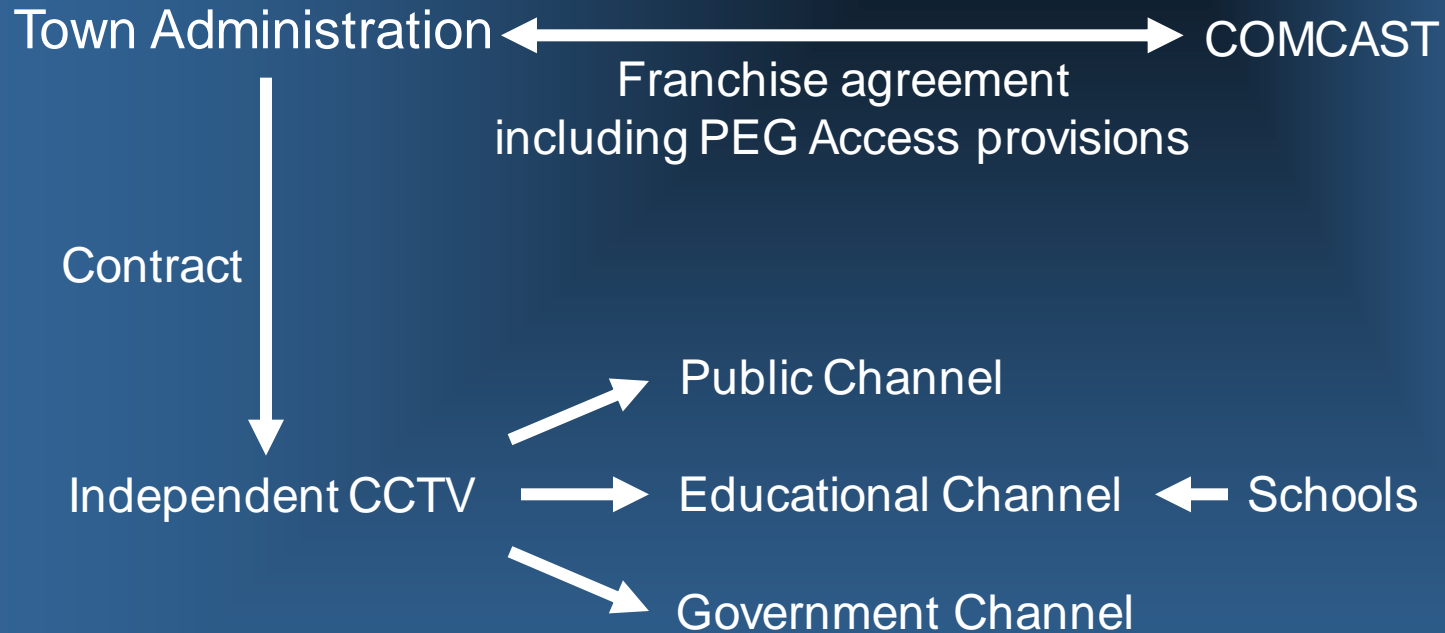
INDEPENDENCE OF THE PRESS

Ms. Gailus moves that the Town request of the Town Manager, and urge the Select Board to request of the Town Manager, that Concord Carlisle Television (CCTV) remains the independent non-profit provider of Public Educational Government (PEG) Access services to the Town.



Article 20

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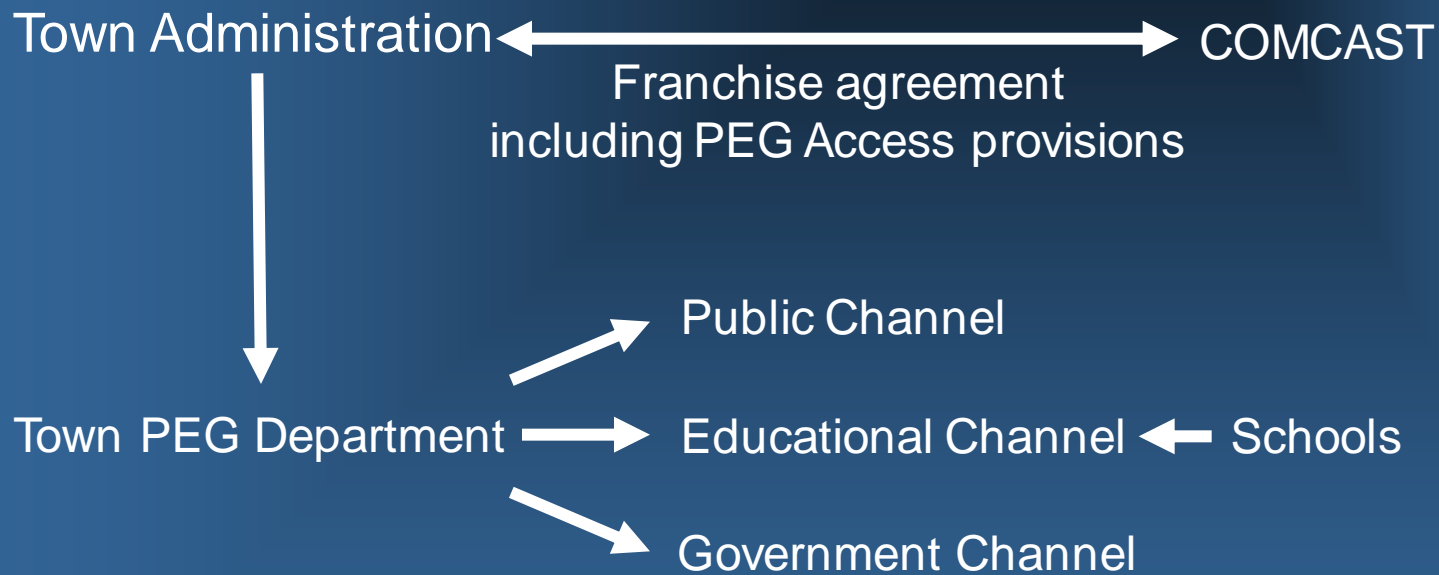


OUR CURRENT ARRANGEMENT = "BEST PRACTICE"
INDEPENDENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE CONTROL.
CONCENTRATED RESOURCES.



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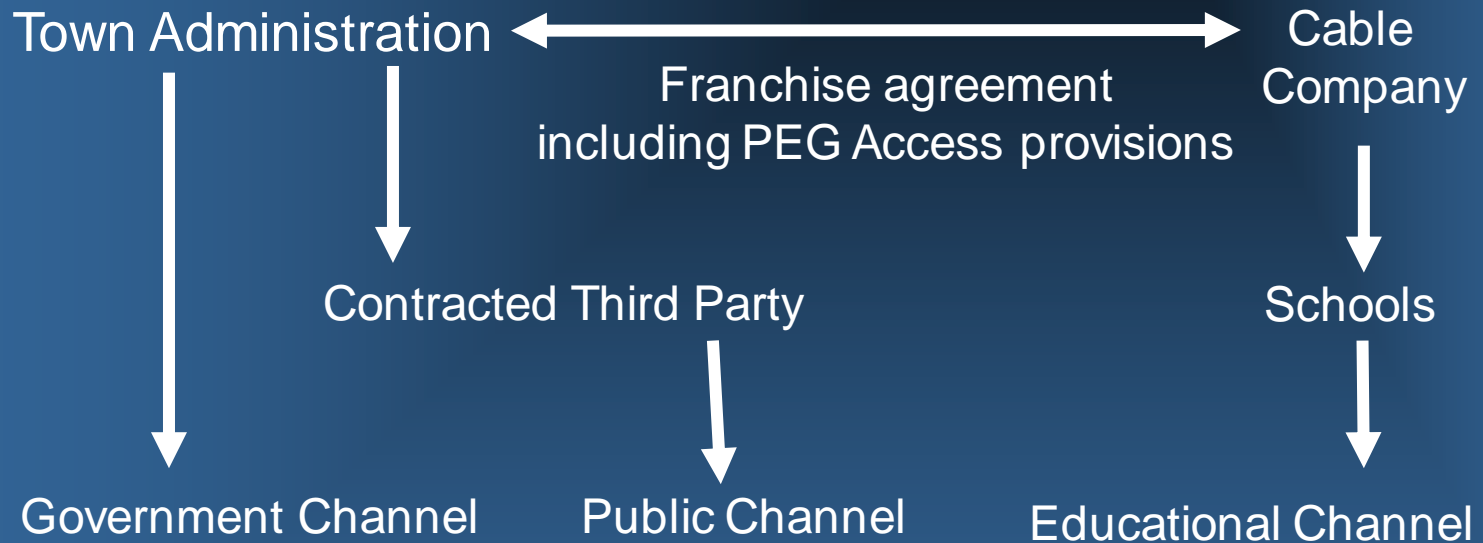


TOWN MANAGEMENT'S PLAN (?)
CONTROLLED BY THE ADMINISTRATIVE BRANCH



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WHILE SOME COMMUNITIES HAVE THE ABOVE ARRANGEMENT, THIS IS NOT DESIRABLE IN CONCORD WHERE WE THE CITIZENS ARE THE LEGISLATORS.



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Democracy:

Freedom to participate in government

Freedom from undue control by
any particular government administration

To maintain these, information
from **independent** sources is essential

For Local Democracy:

We need **independent local sources.**



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Sources of Local Information:

Town Information Services:

Website, Agendas, Minutes, Open Meetings, etc.

Local Commercial Media:

The Concord Journal, Concord Patch, etc.

Local Independent Non-commercial Media:

CCTV



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An Advisory Committee without an independent CCTV, i.e. with PEG Access operated by Town Administration,

cannot -- BY DEFINITION ,

- X** Make PEG Resources independent of Government Administration control.



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Secondary Concerns:

Keeping up with and making the most of technological change:

Seldom easy, and never automatic.

The best plan is to have a critical mass of resources and expertise, with a team of diverse talent that can work together in a focused way.



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Furthermore: Financial Concern

If Town Government runs PEG Access
and COMCAST funding decreases,
will access services decline,
or will the loss be made up from taxes?



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Also: Legal Concern

If Town Government runs PEG Access,
is there increased risk of the Town having to
defend against litigation relating to
FCC regulations? Libel?

Apparent Conflicts of Interest?

PEG \$ cannot pay for Town's legal defense.



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What is the Best Model for Concord's
Public, Education, Government (PEG)
Access Television if we wish to provide
Independence, Strength, Resilience, &
Growth Potential for these important
information services?



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We currently have the best model.

It provides for independence,
concentrated expertise, and a core
around which future expanded and
Improved services can be developed.



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