



For Immediate Release: 08.30.02

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Franchise Agreement Up for Renewal

Public Input Sought as Part of Cable TV Service Review Now Underway

With the Village's cable television agreement with AT&T Broadband set to expire in April 2004, public input is now being actively sought as an important part of preparing to negotiate a new contract.

Citizens can comment on AT&T's past performance, as well as the community's future cable television and telecommunications needs, at a special public meeting scheduled for 7 p.m., Mon., Sept. 9, in Village Hall, 123 Madison St.

The meeting is sponsored by the Village's Telecommunications Commission, a citizen advisory body charged with assessing community cable television needs and advising the Village Board on the franchise renewal.

Comments also can be made by writing to the Village Manager's Office, Village Hall, 123 Madison St., Oak Park, IL 60302, or emailing cable@oak-park.us, a special address created to gather citizen input for the franchise renewal process. Citizen comments will be included in the formal record used by the Village during negotiations with AT&T.

A telephone survey of Oak Parkers regarding cable service satisfaction was conducted in August, and results now are being tabulated. Federal law requires cable operators to serve the "cable-related needs and interests of the community."

For detailed reports describing the federal law governing the renewal process, residents can visit the Village cable franchise attorney's website, www.municipalcommunicationslaw.com/presentations.htm.

For more information call the Village Manger's Office at 358.5778 or email village@oak-park.us.

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