Rainier Communications Commission

2320 South 19th Street, Tacoma, WA 98405-2946 P: (253) 798-8707

RCC Meeting Agenda
Wednesday, June 17, 2026
8:00-9:00 a.m.
Location: Virtual by ZOOM, or in-person at PCTV 2320 South 19th ST, Tacoma, WA 98405

Board members should check their email for a panelist link.
For public attendance, or if your link isn't working, use this link:
https://piercecountywa.zoom.us/j/93462926395
Passcode: 614177
Webinar ID: 988 3197 8247

Link to meeting packet and supporting documents referenced in today's meeting:
https://www.piercecountytv.org/DocumentCenter/Index/155

1. Call to Order / Welcome – Chair Jani Hitchen, Pierce County
2. *Approval of the Agenda
3. *Approval of Minutes – May 20, 2026
4. Old Business
    a. Cable franchise audit update – Bill Vetter/Megan Hutton
        i. Processing payments update
        ii. Letter to Comcast
    b. Financial report | 2026 Q2 (pending) – Megan Hutton
    c. RCC Steering Committee – 2nd meeting update
        i. Discussion at last meeting – Committee voices
            1. Retaining member voices at the table
            2. Restoring 7th FTE
            3. Which option provides long-term stability for RCC services
        ii. ILA/advisory options update – Megan Hutton
            1. Draft ILA revisions
        iii. Next steps: drafting a new model for operations this summer
            1. Conversations with Pierce County
            2. Work on tiers of service, production hours
            3. Draft a sample contract for Board review
            4. Cost estimates
            5. What timelines are helpful?
5. Tracking Important Legislation
    a. Congressional bill H.R. 2289, the "American Broadband Deployment Act of 2026"
        i. Description: Introduced by Rep. Carter (GA) and forwarded by the Subcommittee on Communications and Technology on November 18, 2025, this bill is primarily a deregulatory telecom (cable, broadband, fiber) infrastructure bill ostensibly aimed at accelerating broadband and wireless deployment but in reading the bill, you'll find that it eviscerates state & local Public Rights of Way (PROW) management by wholesale preemption and by establishing 'deemed granted' status to applicants with difficult 'shot clocks' for local and state government to handle.

ii. Where's it at: The House Energy and Commerce Committee passed H.R. 2289 out of committee on a party-line vote in Nov. The legislation now sits before the Rules Committee for a House for floor consideration, pulled once.

iii. Why we're concerned: The bill is opposed by local governments as it strips locals of authority and preempts management of the public rights-of-way by municipalities. The preemption of local authorities in the permitting process will not expedite broadband build-out but will jeopardize the safety protocols and procedures that local governments outline in the permitting process.

iv. Examples of impact: In the cable franchise arena, the bill would eliminate cable franchise renewals, undercutting the ability of local communities to enforce or improve franchise obligations, and creating "forever franchises." It would also give cable operators the right to change any franchise provision they do not like, such as build-out to every neighborhood, customer service standards, and local PEG channels.
H.R. 2289 also weakens municipal authority to manage wireless facilities and internet service providers. In addition, it tips the balance of judicial review of municipal actions away from municipalities.

v. Short video explaining H. R. 2289

6. PCTV Update
    a. Celebrating training opportunities
7. Commissioner Comments (good of the order)
8. Adjourn

*Voting Item

2026 meeting dates: January 21, March 18, May 20, June 17, September 16, November 18