



April 9, 2018

Rondella Hawkins  
City of Austin  
Officer, Telecommunications & Regulatory Affairs  
P.O. Box 1088  
Austin, TX 78767

Mrs. Hawkins,

The Austin Independent School District respectfully requests PEG funds for capital expenditures from the City of Austin's Telecommunications and Regulatory Affairs office in the fiscal year 2019 budget.

Capital support is vital for the continued operation of AISD.TV, an educational PEG channel. This request is for \$387,000.

The requested funds will support AISD.TV in meeting our commitment to continue broadcasting 24/7 during the relocation of AISD.TV. As our City of Austin colleagues are aware, Austin ISD recently sold some of our facilities in an effort to help close an anticipated budget deficit. One of the buildings, the Baker Center, currently houses AISD.TV. As we plan to relocate the station, we identified some critical capital needs.

Stated capital needs include a payout system, router, storage system, multi-channel encore and a transcoder system. All of these items will permit us to continue broadcasting 24/7 as required.

All of the requested equipment hardware is computer-based and, according to industry practice, is normally judged end-of-life between three and five years. The requested equipment is to replace existing equipment that will be nearly seven years old by the time it is to be moved and re-installed.

Failure of some of the old equipment during de-installation, move and re-installation is assumed. Electronic components can easily fail when equipment that has been sedentary for so long is disturbed.

This equipment, besides production equipment, is the most critical and has the most impact of our entire operation. The new replacement equipment will provide many cost and time saving efficiencies in our current workflow.

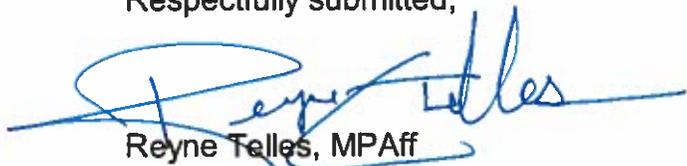
Securing updated equipment for the new location, while the existing system is still in operation at the Baker building, will allow us to get the new system operable and plan the transition from the old telecommunications to the new hopefully without going off-air. We will have just bare minimum systems in place until the rest of the equipment is moved and commissioned.

In addition to the requested PEG funds, Austin ISD has proposed a \$554,582.96 budget for AISD.TV. The Austin ISD School Board will not approve the proposed budgets until June, but to date the proposed figure has not fluctuated. It is important to note it is more than 13 percent lower from last year's AISD.TV operating budget due to austere times at Austin ISD as we prepare to face a roughly \$30 million deficit. As previously mentioned, one revenue generator was the sale of some AISD properties, which will directly impact AISD.TV's location. As we plan for the move, there is a moving budget that includes the station relocation in addition to the station's operating budget. It is too early to say what the budget for the move will be, but the tentative plans assume it will cost hundreds of thousands of dollars to move the station.

Additionally, we would like to thank the City of Austin for the continued collaboration, in particular as it relates to using the LiveU unit. The additional access to the unit has improved our production and made more event available to our viewing public.

We thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully submitted,



Reyne Telles, MPAff  
Executive Director, Department of Communications & Community Engagement  
Austin Independent School District



Samantha Alexander, MPA  
Assistant Director, Department of Communications & Community Engagement  
Austin Independent School District



Tiffany Saunders  
AISD.TV Manager  
Austin Independent School District

**Attachment enclosed:** 2019 AISD.TV Requested Peg Funded Purchases

2019 AISD.TV Requested Peg Funded Purchases

Automation Playout System	\$120,000.00
144X144 Hybrid Signal Router	\$100,000.00
Production Storage System & Server	\$75,000.00
Multi-Channel Encoder	\$52,000.00
Transcoder Computer System	\$40,000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$387,000.00</b>