

Ref: 2008-MM22.7

June 27, 2008

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

City Council on June 23 and 24, 2008, referred the following Motion to the Executive Committee:

MM22.7 Rogers Cable Broadcast of Toronto Executive Committee Meetings on Community Access "Channel 10"
Moved by Councillor Walker, seconded by Councillor Stintz

SUMMARY:

Rogers Cable has broadcast television coverage of meetings of City Council on their Community Channel "10" for many years now. This broadcast increases access to the democratic process at City Hall for the general public. This broadcast also meets Rogers Cable's requirement to provide community access programming to the general public.

This television coverage on Channel "10" reaches a population who does not use the internet for their information gathering. Many residents have come to rely on this television coverage to observe the democratic process at work, in real time.

The operation of City Council has changed in the last two years. Now, since the implementation of the new governance structure and the creation of the Executive Committee, much of the policy discussions do not occur at City Council. Presently, the Executive Committee is the de facto City Council because it is the forum for discussion of policy and whatever the Executive Committee adopts goes through City Council with little discussion or amendment.

Since the Executive Committee is so important to the new City Council governance process, the general public needs to have broad access to monitor it, as it has been monitoring City Council. Therefore, Rogers Cable should include broadcast of the Executive Committee in its monthly programming schedule for its Community Access Channel "10".

RECOMMENDATION:

1. That City Council request Rogers Cable Channel "10" to broadcast all meetings of the Executive Committee to further meet Rogers Cable's requirement for community programming.

for City Clerk

M. Toft/cd