

Burlington Telecom Cable TV Carriage Policy

Our carriage policy is based on three interrelated objectives:

- A) to provide a wide variety of channels along with the greatest feasible degree of consumer choice;
- B) to remain economically viable as a system operator in a climate of rapidly changing technology and consumer trends;
- C) to be responsive to the needs of the communities we serve.

BT is a privately financed City of Burlington Department which is not supported by tax dollars. As a result, BT is a business that exists in a market-based, competitive environment. Survival in that environment dictates that all decisions of channel carriage are ultimately conditioned by cost, demand, and value. Because most of our networks contractually force us to bundle our stations in tiers, we must ensure that the bundles themselves remain reasonably priced but also profitable enough to sustain to operation of the network. Carriage of additional channels has an effect on the price of a tier.

BT will be serving an increasingly diverse community with increasingly diverse carriage requests. In response, we will, within economic regulatory and legal constraints, seek to provide the widest feasible array of news, information, and entertainment on our cable TV network with particular attention paid to community need -- both when that is widely expressed and when it reflects particular individuals and groups within the community. BT will also make a special effort to facilitate locally-produced channels and content and will assist in the development of a market for local channels.

BT supports any effort which brings more choices and more flexibility to its subscribers. Although the trend towards media consolidation in America has, unfortunately, increased and thus created a climate of less choice and flexibility, BT will do its best to push in the opposite direction, to advocate for consumer choice and seek opportunities to increase flexibility for our subscribers.

Contacting BT:

Individuals or groups with specific channel carriage requests should contact Burlington Telecom at 540-0007 or in writing to 200 Church Street, Burlington, VT 05401. We will investigate if it is technically possible to provide the station, and if so inquire of the costs and make a decision based on the parameters discussed above.

Individual or groups who wish to voice complaints about specific programming on the channels we carry are encouraged to contact the network station directly.