

MEDIACOM CABLE FRANCHISE – INFORMATION SHEET – Ocean View, DE
Please share this information freely to help us address the misinformation being shared!

The Cable Franchise Agreement that the Town of Ocean View has with Mediacom relates solely to Cable TV. It does not cover the company's internet service/nor broadband.

Mediacom is currently the only cable provider in Ocean View but that is only because no other provider has chosen to offer this service. We can and would negotiate additional cable franchise agreements if any company showed interest. There is no rule prohibiting Ocean View having more than one cable provider, many Towns and Cities in Delaware do and we would likely as well if a reputable company approached the Town.

Regarding internet service in our area, it is correct that currently Mediacom is the only option for most in Ocean View and some surrounding areas. However, internet service is not subject to a franchise agreement with a Town or City. Comcast is now offering residential cable and internet service in Bethany, and South Bethany. We are told they will continue to add communities but have yet to receive a time frame for doing so here in Ocean View. Again, there is no exclusivity provision/monopoly except for Mediacom being the only provider interested in being here at this time.

To that end, over the last six years, we have engaged with Comcast regarding their coming into our community to offer residential cable and internet. As you can imagine, their decisions to provide service are economically driven and based on the cost to build and the number of customers they anticipate to gain. There is strong competition with other markets that they serve and this is a factor regarding decisions. Late in 2021 the Town was contacted by Comcast who requested certain necessary information and advised they were interested in starting the process to obtain a Franchise agreement. As of August 2024, they continued to evaluate the timing for doing so. **In April of 2025, contact was made to the Town by Comcast to advise that they were again reviewing timing, but that engagement ultimately was only for “under serviced areas” (that have little to no internet) that they have been awarded state funding to address, and it was to take precedent. At this time Comcast has not made the decision to come into the Town for a residential cable franchise.** I continue to engage regularly on behalf of our Town. I have not been able to obtain information related to the success Comcast had going into Bethany and South Bethany with its cable franchise. I’m concerned that the fact that they

have fewer full time residents might have impacted the accounts they brought on and in turn slowed down interest to expand in our area. Regardless, we have communicated our higher full time resident count.

For now, any concerns related to internet or cable tv service from Mediacom that Ocean View residents have can be brought to my attention. **I have successfully worked on many issues for property owners with Mediacom.** I would be happy to engage Mediacom on behalf of any resident who wishes to share their concerns.

Carol Houck, Ocean View Town Manager - **Updated as of Nov 2025**