



NORTHERN DAKOTA COUNTY CABLE  
COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
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## **Guidelines for Election Programming On NDC4/Town Square Television Channels**

**NDC4 Commission Approved 4-4-18**

### **NDC4 Cable Commission Channels**

1. All programming decisions regarding Government Channels 18 and 19 and Education Channel 20 are made by NDC4 staff, who report to the NDC4 Executive Director and NDC4 Cable Commission, which ultimately reports to the seven Member Cities of the NDC4 Joint Powers Cooperative.
2. After the official filing deadline has passed for a particular election for public office, until the election is complete and results have been announced, NDC4 Channels 18, 19, and 20 will not carry programs that include filed candidates for that office. This prohibition shall not include: 1) public candidate forums or "Meet the Candidates" program (sometimes organized by an independent group such as League of Women Voters or Chambers of Commerce) inviting all filed candidates to participate; and 2) the appearance of current elected officials in governmental meetings or other regularly scheduled programs where such elected officials are appearing in their official capacity.

NDC4 Channels 18, 19, and 20 reserve the right to pull or exclude programs with write-in candidates who have publicly declared candidacy or actively participated in campaign behavior, including but not limited to advertising, door knocking, or having a campaign group working on their behalf. Determining whether a write-in candidate should be excluded from Channels 18, 19, or 20 is at the sole discretion of NDC4.

Other programs that include any filed or write-in candidate(s) for public office may be submitted for playback on Public Access Channel 15 or 16 as described in paragraph 1 below (Town Square Television Channels).

3. Candidates who have filed to have their name placed on the ballot with their local election office or the Minnesota Secretary of State, and whose names will appear on the ballot, will be invited to participate in Candidate Forums and "Meet the Candidates" programs that are produced by NDC4/Town Square Television. Write-in candidates will not be invited or allowed to participate in NDC4/Town Square Television produced election programming.
4. Members of the public may submit their non-commercial community text messages for the 24-Hour Community Bulletin Board Channel 21 with a signed Cablecast Request Form taking full responsibility for the content of the message.

### **Town Square Television Channels**

Members of the public who wish to present programs for playback on Town Square Television Channels may submit their programs for Public Access Channel 15 or Multifair Access Channel 16. Submitters must submit their program(s) with a signed Cablecast Request Form taking full responsibility for the content of their program, according to Town Square Television policies and procedures.