

ORDINANCE NO. 3, SERIES 2024

AN ORDINANCE GRANTING A NONEXCLUSIVE FRANCHISE FROM THE TOWN OF UPTON, WESTON COUNTY, WYOMING TO SPECTRUM PACIFIC WEST, LLC AN INDIRECT SUBSIDIARY OF CHARTER COMMUNICATIONS, INC. TO PROVIDE SERVICES AS SPECIFIED IN THE AGREEMENT, ESTABLISHING THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF SAID FRANCHISE, AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

FRANCHISE AGREEMENT

This Franchise Agreement ("Franchise") is between the Town of Upton, Wyoming hereinafter referred to as the "Grantor," and Spectrum Pacific West, LLC, an indirect subsidiary of CHARTER COMMUNICATIONS, INC., hereinafter referred to as the "Grantee."

The Grantor hereby acknowledges that the financial, legal, and technical ability of the Grantee is reasonably sufficient to provide services, facilities, and equipment necessary to meet the future cable-related needs of the community and having afforded the public adequate notice and opportunity for comment, desires to enter into this Franchise with the Grantee for the construction and operation of a Cable System on the terms set forth herein.

1. Definitions:

- a. "Cable Act" means the Cable Communications Policy Act of 1984, P.L. 98-549, 47 U.S.C. §521 Supp., as it may be amended or superseded.
- b. "Cable System," "Cable Service," and "Basic Cable Service" shall be defined as set forth in the Cable Act.
- c. "Franchise" means the authorization granted hereunder of a franchise, privilege, permit, license or otherwise to construct, operate and maintain a Cable System within the Franchise Area.
- d. "Franchise Area" shall mean the geographic boundaries of the Grantor, and shall include any additions thereto by annexation or other legal means.
- e. "Gross Revenues" means all revenues, as determined in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, actually received by Grantee from Subscribers residing within the Franchise Area for Cable Services purchased by such Subscribers on a regular, recurring monthly basis. Gross Revenues shall not include (1) any taxes, fees or assessments collected by the Grantee from Subscribers for pass-through to a government agency, including, without limitation, the FCC user fee, franchise fee, or sales or utility taxes; (2) bad debt; (3) credits, refunds and deposits paid to Subscribers; and (4) any exclusion available under applicable state law.
- f. "Standard Installation" shall mean installations to residences and buildings that are located up to 125 feet from the point of connection to Grantee's existing distribution system.
- g. "Streets" means the public streets, avenues, highways, boulevards, concourses, driveways, bridges, tunnels, parks, parkways, waterways, alleys, all other rights-of-way and easements, including but not limited to public utility easements, dedicated utility strips, or rights-of-way dedicated for compatible uses now or hereafter, and the public grounds, places or water within the geographic boundaries of Grantor.
- h. "Subscriber" means any person lawfully receiving any Cable Service from the Grantee.

2. **Granting of Franchise.** The Grantor hereby grants to Grantee a non-exclusive Franchise which authorizes the Grantee to erect, construct, operate and maintain in, upon, along, across, above, over and under the Streets now in existence and as may be created or established during its terms; any poles, wires, cable, antennae, underground conduits, manholes, and other conductors, fixtures, equipment and other facilities used for the construction, operation and maintenance of the Cable System, upon the terms and

conditions set forth herein. Nothing in this Franchise shall be construed to prohibit the Grantee from offering any service over its Cable System that is not prohibited by federal or state law.

3. **Term.** The Franchise shall be for a term of ten (10) years, commencing on the Effective Date of this Franchise as set forth in Section 16.

4. **Use of the Streets and Dedicated Easements.**

- a. Grantee shall have the right to use the Streets of the Grantor for the construction, operation and maintenance of the Cable System, including the right to repair, replace and enlarge and extend the Cable System.
- b. The facilities of the Grantee shall be installed underground in those Service Areas where existing telephone and electric services are both underground at the time of system construction and may be installed underground in other areas at the discretion of Grantee. In areas where either telephone or electric utility facilities are installed aerially at the time of system construction, the Grantee may install its facilities aerially with the understanding that at such time as the existing aerial facilities are required to be placed underground by the Grantor, the Grantee shall likewise place its facilities underground. In the event Grantor or any agency thereof directly or indirectly reimburses any utility for the placement of cable underground or the movement of cable, Grantee shall be similarly reimbursed.
- c. Codes and Permits. Grantee, its contractors and subcontractors, as applicable, shall obtain all legally required permits, at its and their expense, before commencing any work requiring a permit, including, but not limited to the opening or disturbance of any Street or use of any public easement within the Service Area. The Grantor shall cooperate with the Grantee in granting any permits required, providing such grant and subsequent construction by the Grantee shall not unduly interfere with the use of such Streets. The Grantee shall adhere to all building and zoning codes currently or hereafter applicable to construction, operation or maintenance of the Cable System in the Service Area, provided that such codes are of general applicability and such codes are uniformly and consistently applied by the Grantor as to public utility companies and other entities operating in the Service Area.
- d. Grantee shall have the right and privilege at its sole cost, risk, and expense of trimming all trees which overhang said streets in such a manner and to such extent as will prevent the branches or limbs or other parts of such trees from touching or interfering with its facilities; providing no such trees shall be trimmed or cut back further than may be necessary to prevent such interference and to allow the proper operation and maintenance of said facilities, and further providing that Grantee shall fully comply with all applicable ordinances, rules, and regulations of Grantor.

5. **Maintenance of the System.**

- a. Grantee shall at all times employ ordinary care in the maintenance and operation of the Cable System so as not to endanger the life, health or property of any citizen of the Grantor or the property of the Grantor
- b. All construction practices and installation of equipment shall be done in accordance with all applicable sections of the National Electric Safety Code.
- c. The Cable System shall be designed, constructed and operated so as to meet those technical standards adopted by the FCC relating to Cable Systems contained in part 76 of the FCC's rules and regulations as they may, from time to time, be amended.

6. **Service.**

- a. Prior to initiating construction in the Franchise Area, Grantee may terminate this Franchise without penalty upon written notice to Grantor.
- b. Grantee shall have the right, but not the obligation, to extend the Cable System into any portion of the Franchise Area, including annexed areas. Cable Service offered

to Subscribers pursuant to this Franchise shall be conditioned upon Grantee having legal access on reasonable terms and conditions to any such Subscriber's dwelling unit or other units wherein such Cable Service is provided.

- c. The Cable Service will be provided at Grantee's published rate for standard installations if such residence is a Standard Installation. Grantee shall not be obligated to provide service to any area where it is financially or technically infeasible to do so. Grantee at its discretion may make Cable Service available to businesses within the Service Area.
- d. The Grantor shall promptly provide written notice to the Grantee of its annexation of any territory which is being provided Cable Service by the Grantee or its affiliates. Such annexed area will be subject to the provisions of this Franchise upon sixty (60) days' written notice from the Grantor, subject to the conditions set forth below and subsection (a) above. The Grantor shall also notify Grantee in writing of all new street address assignments or changes within the Franchise Area. Grantee shall within ninety (90) days after receipt of the annexation notice, pay the Grantor franchise fees on revenue received from the operation of the Cable System to provide Cable Services in any area annexed by the Grantor if the Grantor has provided a written annexation notice that includes the addresses that will be moved into the Franchise Area in an Excel format or in a format that will allow Grantee to change its billing system. If the annexation notice does not include the addresses that will be moved into the Franchise Area, Grantee shall pay franchise fees within ninety (90) days after it receives the annexed addresses as set forth above. All notices due under this section shall be sent by electronic or certified mail, return receipt requested to the addresses set forth in Section 13 with a copy to the Director of Government Affairs. In any audit of franchise fees due under this Agreement, Grantee shall not be liable for franchise fees on annexed areas unless and until Grantee has received notification and information that meets the standards set forth in this section.

7. **Insurance/Indemnity.**

- a. The Grantee shall maintain throughout the term of the Franchise insurance in amounts at least as follows:

Workers' Compensation	Statutory Limits
Commercial General Liability	\$1,000,000 per occurrence, \$2,000,000 General Aggregate
Auto Liability including coverage on all owned, non owned hired autos	\$1,000,000 per occurrence Combined Single Limit
Umbrella Liability	\$1,000,000 per occurrence

- b. The Grantor shall be added as an additional insured, arising out of work performed by Grantee, to the above Commercial General Liability, Auto Liability and Umbrella Liability insurance coverage.
- c. The Grantee shall furnish the Grantor with current certificates of insurance evidencing such coverage upon request.
- d. Grantee hereby agrees to indemnify and hold the Grantor, including its agents and employees, harmless from any claims or damages resulting from the negligent actions of Grantee in constructing, operating or maintaining the Cable System. Grantor agrees to give the Grantee written notice of its obligation to indemnify Grantor within ten (10) days of receipt of a claim or action pursuant to this section. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Grantee shall not be obligated to indemnify Grantor for any damages, liability or claims resulting from the willful misconduct or negligence of Grantor or for the Grantor's use of the Cable System.

8. **Revocation.**

- a. Prior to revocation or termination of the Franchise, the Grantor shall give written notice to the Grantee of its intent to revoke the Franchise on the basis of a pattern of substantial noncompliance with a material provision of the Franchise. The notice shall set forth the exact nature of the noncompliance. The Grantee shall have sixty (60) days from such notice to either object in writing and to state its reasons for such objection and provide any explanation or to cure the alleged noncompliance. If Grantee has not cured the breach within such sixty (60) day time period or if the Grantor has not otherwise received a satisfactory response from Grantee, the Grantor may then seek to revoke the Franchise at a public hearing. The Grantee shall be given at least thirty (30) days prior written notice of such public hearing, specifying the time and place of such hearing and stating its intent to revoke the Franchise.
 - b. At the hearing, the Grantor shall give the Grantee an opportunity to state its position on the matter, present evidence and question witnesses, after which it shall determine whether or not the Franchise shall be revoked. The public hearing shall be on the record and a written transcript and a certified copy of the findings shall be made available to the Grantee within ten (10) business days. The Grantee may appeal such determination to an appropriate court, which shall have the power to review the decision of the Grantor de novo.
 - c. Upon revocation of the Franchise, Grantee may remove the Cable System from the Streets of the Grantor, or abandon the Cable System in place.
9. **Equal Protection.** If any other provider of cable services or video services (without regard to the technology used to deliver such services) is lawfully authorized by the Grantor or by any other state or federal governmental entity to provide such services using facilities located wholly or partly in the public rights-of-way of the Grantor, the Grantor shall, within thirty (30) days of a written request from Grantee, modify this Franchise to insure that the obligations applicable to Grantee are no more burdensome than those imposed on the new competing provider. If the Grantor fails to make modifications consistent with this requirement, Grantee's Franchise shall be deemed so modified thirty (30) days after the Grantee's initial written notice. As an alternative to the Franchise modification request, the Grantee shall have the right and may choose to have this Franchise with the Grantor be deemed expired thirty (30) days after written notice to the Grantor. Nothing in this Franchise shall impair the right of the Grantee to terminate this Franchise and, at Grantee's option, negotiate a renewal or replacement franchise, license, consent, certificate or other authorization with any appropriate government entity. Nothing in this Section 9 shall be deemed a waiver of any remedies available to Franchisee under federal, state or municipal law, including but not limited to Section 625 of the Cable Act, 47 U.S.C. § 545.
 10. **Compliance with Laws.** Grantor and Grantee shall conform to all applicable state and federal laws and rules regarding cable television as they become effective. Grantee shall also conform with all generally applicable Grantor ordinances, resolutions, rules and regulations heretofore or hereafter adopted or established during the entire term of the Franchise. In the event of a conflict between Grantor ordinances, resolutions, rules or regulations and the provisions of this Franchise, the provisions of this Franchise shall govern.
 11. **Change in Law.** Notwithstanding any other provision in this Franchise, in the event any change to state or federal law occurring during the term of this Franchise eliminates the requirement for any person desiring to provide video service or Cable Service to obtain a franchise from the Grantor, then Grantee shall have the right to terminate this Franchise and operate the system under the terms and conditions established in applicable law. If Grantee chooses to terminate this Franchise pursuant to this provision, this Franchise shall be deemed to have expired by its terms on the effective date of any such change in law, whether or not such law allows existing franchise agreements to continue until the date of expiration provided in any existing franchise.
 12. **Confidentiality.** If Grantee provides any books, records or maps to the Grantor, the Grantor agrees to treat as confidential such books, records or maps that constitute proprietary or confidential information. Until otherwise ordered by a court or agency of competent jurisdiction, the Grantor agrees that, to the extent permitted by state and federal

law, it shall deny access to any of Grantee's books, records or maps marked confidential to any person.

13. Notices, Miscellaneous.

- a. Unless otherwise provided by federal, state or local law, all notices, reports or demands pursuant to this Franchise shall be in writing and shall be deemed to be sufficiently given upon delivery to a Person at the address set forth below, or by U.S. certified mail, return receipt requested, nationally or internationally recognized courier service such as Federal Express or electronic mail communication to the designated electronic mail address provided below. In accordance with applicable law, Grantee shall provide notice of any changes in rates, programming services or channel positions using any reasonable written means. As set forth above, notice served upon the Grantor shall be delivered or sent to:

Grantor: Town Upton, Wyoming
725 2nd Street
Upton, Wy 82730
Email: uptonwy@townofupton.com

Grantee: Charter Communications, Inc.
Senior Manager, Government Affairs
Mike Mores
611 E Carlson #103
Cheyenne, Wy 82009
Email: mike.mores@charter.com

Copy to: Charter Communications
Attn: Vice President, Government Affairs
601 Massachusetts Ave. NW, Suite 400W
Washington, DC 20001

- b. All provisions of this Franchise shall apply to the respective parties, their lawful successors, transferees and assigns.
- c. If any particular section of this Franchise shall be held invalid, the remaining provisions and their application shall not be affected thereby.
- d. In the event of any conflict between this Franchise and any Grantor ordinance or regulation, this Franchise will prevail.
- 14. Force Majeure.** The Grantee shall not be held in default under, or in noncompliance with the provisions of the Franchise, nor suffer any enforcement or penalty relating to noncompliance or default, where such noncompliance or alleged defaults occurred or were caused by circumstances reasonably beyond the ability of the Grantee to anticipate and control. This provision includes, but is not limited to, severe or unusual weather conditions, fire, flood, or other acts of God, strikes, work delays caused by failure of utility providers to service, maintain or monitor their utility poles to which Grantee's Cable System is attached, as well as unavailability of materials and/or qualified labor to perform the work necessary.

15. Franchise Fee.

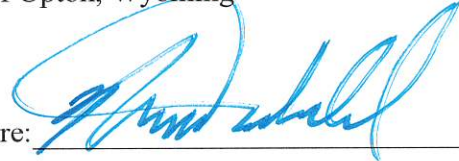
- a. Grantee shall pay to the Grantor annually an amount equal to three percent (3%) of the Gross Revenues for such calendar year. Franchise fees may be passed through to Subscribers as a line item on Subscriber bills or otherwise as Grantee chooses, consistent with federal law.
- b. The amount of franchise fee and the method of calculation shall be competitively neutral when compared to the amount or method of calculation of the franchise fee in any other cable franchise or authorization to provide video service granted by Grantor. In the event any other cable franchise or authorization to provide video

service provides for a lesser franchise fee than this Franchise, Grantee's obligation to pay a Franchise Fee under this Section 15 shall be reduced by an equivalent amount.

- c. Each year during which the Franchise is in force, Grantee shall pay Grantor no later than ninety (90) days after the end of each calendar year the franchise fees required by this section. The Grantor shall have the right to review the previous year's books of the Grantee to the extent necessary to ensure proper payment of the fees payable hereunder.
16. **Effective Date.** The Franchise granted herein will take effect and be in full force from such date of acceptance by Grantee recorded on the signature page of this Franchise.
17. **Acceptance and Entire Agreement.** The Grantor and the Grantee, by virtue of the signatures set forth below, agree to be legally bound by all provisions and conditions set forth in this Franchise. The Franchise constitutes the entire agreement between the Grantor and the Grantee. No modifications to this Franchise may be made without an appropriate written amendment signed by both parties. Any determination by the Grantor regarding the interpretation or enforcement of this Franchise shall be subject to de novo judicial review. If any fee or grant that is passed through to Subscribers is required by this Franchise, other than the franchise fee, such fee or grant shall go into effect sixty (60) days after the Effective Date of this Franchise.

Considered and approved this 12 day of Nov, 2024

Town of Upton, Wyoming

Signature: 

Name/Title: Nick Trandahl / Mayor

Accepted this 13th day of February 2025, subject to applicable federal and state law.

Spectrum Pacific West, LLC
By: Charter Communications, Inc., Its Manager

Signature: 

Name/Title: Paul Abbott, VP, Local Government Affairs & Franchising