

City of Golden Channel 8 Policies

Introduction

The Government Access Channel is a cable channel granted to the City of Golden for the purposes of informational government television programs. The City of Golden administers the Channel. The Channel has independence in programming decisions and shall not be subjected to editorial control beyond the guidance provided by this document. The Channel is available for use by City Departments, Boards and Agencies. Programming and scheduling decisions will be non-partisan, equitable, and determined on content.

Objectives

The government access channel belongs to the citizens of Golden and exists to inform and involve citizens in government. Specific objectives include:

1. increasing citizen awareness, understanding, and participation in all areas of municipal governance;
2. serving as a forum for an on-going dialogue on issues pertaining to municipal governance;
3. encouraging debate and discussion of ideas and a diversity of viewpoints on local issues;
4. providing information about municipal government services and programs;
5. producing programming that informs, educates, enlightens and encourages participation in government services, activities and decision-making.

Only programming that is consistent with overall Channel 8 policies will be cablecast or produced in cooperation with Golden.

Programming Priorities

1. Emergency information involving public safety or health;
2. Programs that explain policies and programs of the City of Golden or that solicit citizen input on these policies and programs;
3. Issues of city-wide significance that are being addressed at the neighborhood or community level;
4. Public meetings of other government agencies and programs about public policy issues that are relevant to local government or affect Golden citizens;
5. Programs that feature cultural and historic aspects of the city and its citizens, and other programs of general interest to the citizens of Golden;
6. Public Service Announcements. The Golden TV 8 Community Bulletin Board is a videotext bulletin board which runs at various times throughout the day on Golden's Government Access Channel (Comcast cable channel 8).
 - Public service announcements must be of interest to the entire Golden community. (No individual PTA meetings, neighborhood association meetings, etc.)
 - Public service announcements regarding events, activities, meetings and fundraising efforts will be allowed for all governmental entities and elected officials acting in their official capacity.
 - Public service announcements for Golden 501(c)(3) entities duly recognized by the Internal Revenue Service will be allowed.

- Public service announcements regarding community events at commercial centers within the city will be allowed as long as they do not promote a specific for-profit business.
- Public service announcements about community campaign issue events will be allowed as long as both sides of the issue are to be represented in such event. (events such as a public debate will be allowed; events such as a rally on one side of an issue will not be allowed)
- Not allowed:
 - Public Service announcements regarding events for candidates of any political office.
 - Individual fundraising events. (i.e. Jane Doe sponsorship in a race.) .
 - Public service announcements featuring one specific for-profit commercial entity. (i.e. donations to schools on each auto purchased at a specific dealer.)
 - Commercial material;
 - Material or, groups advocating a particular religious belief of disseminating religious information
 - Material that is defamatory, slanderous, lewd or obscene;
 - Material that endorses legislation or a person running for public office or promotes or opposes any ballot issue; and material that promotes discrimination against any person on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status or disability.

Programs produced in the studio that summarize legislative activity may include edited segments of meetings previously shown in their entirety.

Elections, Endorsements, Underwriting

Candidates for election or reelection to a publicly held office shall not be provided access to Channel 8 or its facilities prior to the election for that office except

1. candidates may participate in televised official events of public bodies;
2. candidates may appear on the Channel in political candidate forums and video voter guides in which all candidates have equal opportunity to participate;

The City Clerk shall define the applicable definition and determination of whether someone is a candidate.

Channel 8 shall not be used to endorse an issue, company or product, with the following exceptions:

1. A company or organization may be recognized at the beginning and/or end of a program for underwriting that specific program;
2. public forums on ballot issues where all sides have equal opportunity to speak may be cablecast.

Copyright and Other Program Restrictions

Programs containing copyrighted materials will be used only if copyright clearance has been obtained. The ownership and copyright for any program produced by Channel 8 shall be held by

the City of Golden. Original or taped copies of any program produced for Channel 8 may be made available to other stations or channels for newscasts if the City deems appropriate. Programs that meet the legal definition of obscenity, or which are defamatory, or which promote commercial or profit--making services, products, businesses shall be prohibited.

Please send comments to Karlyn Tilley Communications Manager at (303) 384-8132 or at ktilley@cityofgolden.net or Tom Young at (303) 384-8091 or at tyoung@cityofgolden.net .