

COMMUNITY MEDIA CENTER OF CARROLL COUNTY	
Corporate Policy	
CPS-402	
POLICY TITLE: Political Campaign Content Policy	EFFECTIVE DATE: March 1, 2018
RESPONSIBLE OFFICE: Board of Directors	SUPERSEDES: Any prior relevant motion, policy statement, or handbook.
BOARD SECRETARY: ALAN BOGAGE	ADOPTED: MARCH 1, 2018
SUMMARY: Policies to further robust political discourse and to facilitate equitable access by candidates and organizations advocating and influencing the outcome of an election.	
<i>RATIONALE: The CMC Board of Directors is responsible for establishing policy which governs public access to services, resources and content distribution platforms. A fundamental purpose of the CMC is to facilitate a forum for free and diverse expression including political speech and to facilitate an informed electorate.</i>	

SECTION	POLICY STATEMENT
1.	This policy shall be made publicly available including all candidates and political parties filed with the Maryland State Board of Elections and Carroll County Board of Elections.
2.	Political Campaign Content is any messaging or programming by or on behalf of a candidate, political committee, ballot issue committee or political party.
3.	The CMC will accept Political Campaign Content from Carroll County residents only, without restriction of fee or requirement of becoming a patron member. Submissions will be accepted the first day after the filing deadline until 21 calendar days prior to the election.
4.	The CMC may offer additional political electoral production services prior to an election under the following guidelines:
4.1	The production service will be made available in a prescribed format that ensures unedited, equal treatment for individual political candidates that have filed with the Maryland State Board of Elections or Carroll County Board of Elections.
4.2	The CMC may choose to only offer the production service for electoral races that are contested, having more than one candidate on the ballot.
4.3	The CMC will own the content and make available via Creative Commons licensing requiring attribution and limiting further distribution as noncommercial with no derivatives.

4.4	The candidate accepts full legal responsibility for the content in their appearance and presentation and agrees to indemnify the CMC holding it harmless from any and all liability which could or may arise from the distribution of the candidate's statement via Comcast cable channel 19 or 23, and via Internet or world wide web, including reasonable costs of defending claims or litigation arising from or in connection with the appearance.
4.5	The candidate appearance and statement shall in no way constitute an endorsement or contribution by the CMC, nor shall the recorded statement be used as general public political advertising or be used to create campaign material.
4.6	The candidate must accept all of the CMC terms prior to the production services session.
5.	The CMC may create content such as candidate forums, debates or presentations, in which contested candidates (two or more) appear and have guidelines in which no candidate will receive prominence over another. This content may be edited for promotional reasons, technical reasons, summarization, or to fit within a shorter time block, but will uphold the principles of equitable nonpartisan treatment.
6.	The CMC will not coordinate with the candidate, committee or party with regards to campaign activities, plans, projects or needs.
7.	The CMC will schedule the distribution of Political Campaign Content in a method that ensures equitable nonpartisan treatment. Individual races may be compiled alphabetically with multiple and varying time slots.

Notes and Comments: