

Seattle Public Access Television Survey
 Survey Results - Open-Ended Responses

1. Please provide the name of the Seattle Neighborhood where you live and a Zip Code. (If you do not live in Seattle please answer "None".)

#	Neighborhood	Zip
1	Green Lake	98103
2	Belltown	98121
3	Downtown	98101
4	Haller Lake	98133
5	Fremont	98103
6	Cedar Park	98125
7	Wedgwood	98115
8	Capitol Hill	98102
9	Capitol Hill	98102
10	Haller Lake	98133
11	Fremont	98103
12	none (Edmonds, WA)	98026
13	Rainier Valley	98118
14	Phinney/Greenwood	98103
15	None	98022
16	Maple Leaf	98115
17	none	
18	federal way	98023
19	tukwila	98168
20	none	98057
21	Ravenna	98115
22	none	
23	Roosevelt	98115
24	Highline	98106
25	Queen Anne	98119
26	Beacon Hill	98144
27	Greenwood	98133
28	Upper Rainier Beach	98178
29	Northgate	98103
30	Cap Hill	98102
31	Haller Lake	98133
32	Shoreline,WA	98133
33	rainer valley/central district	98144
34	Capitol Hill	98102
35	west seattle	98126
36	west seattle	98126
37	Lake City	98125
38	none	98028
39	Greenlake	98103
40	Crown Hill	98177
41	Rainier Valley	98124
42	Seattle	98109
43	Crown Hill	98117
44	17th and Jefferson	98122
45	North Delridge	98126

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46	Down town	98202
47	none	98155
48	Georgetown	98108
49	beacon hill	98108
50	Mount Baker	98144
51	Northgate	98125
52	Columbia City	98118
53	Ballard	98107
54	South Park	98108
55	Capital Hill	98102
56	Beacon Hill	98144
57	Rainier Valley	98144
58	Wallingford	98103
59	Phinney	98103
60	First Hill	98101
61	montlake	98112
62	U. District	98105
63	University District	98105
64	none	98027
65	seattle	98118
66	Rainier ave.south Seattle,WA	98118
67	Belltown	98121
68	University Park	98105
69	seward park	98118
70	Wallingford	98103
71	Wallingford	98105
72	Ballard	98107
73	South Park	98108
74	west seattle	98135
75	Northshore	98028
76	Belltown	98121

6. If you have used the public access facility in the past but no longer do so, please explain why you stopped using the facility.

#	Response
1	had kids. no time for production.
2	I volunteered for a few years to help run the cameras for a monthly show on SCAN. It was a great experience and I'm a big supporter of the show and the station. I had to stop working on the program when I moved out of the country for a couple years and now am involved with other projects.
3	I am waiting for it to open again to the producers. So, I haven't stopped using --am working on project doing research right now, and will edit again when it opens.
4	n/a
5	No one watches public access so it is wasted effort.
6	Because it is now shut down.
7	I used the PA facilities in both Portland and Pittsburgh regularly. Hope to do so in Seattle soon!
8	Was prohibited and censored from free speech by Seaattle Council and Mayor DEMANDS
9	City closed SCAN.
10	It closed down for live productions. I can no longer produce my live show. I can not afford to rent another studio to bring to them.
11	Trouble scheduling my time to finish projects

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- 12 had to work on other things in my life, but plan to work on or produce public access program in the future
- 13 The equipment was outdated and difficult to use. The process of uploading and delivering content was old fashioned and difficult.
- 14 they have limited their services
- 15 I produced programming for six years and I needed a break.
- 16 They suck. The server crashed 3 times and our best episodes never got recorded. Our reputation with guests went in the crapper right away when it got out that it's like playing Russian roulette on if your episode will even air. They are TERRIBLE communicators and then blame the producers (me). They do not have the organization or ability to produce content that is even worth having on as background noise while surfing the Internet. it's not lack of money- it's lack of understanding. There is NO purpose in fighting to keep this station AT ALL. this is a HUGE waste of taxpayers time and public energy... And thats why I walked. The last 2 parts of question 7 btw is a JOKE. I'm surprised the station manager has ever worked professionally. Seriously. You gain NO ACTUAL REAL WORLD EXPERIENCE AT ALL by using Scan TV. They don't even know their own equipment. They asked me to teach them how to used the ETC Express lighting console... that console is as BASIC of a professional board as you can get. It's the work-horse of the lighting industry and no one knew anything about it.
- 17 closed
- 18 Budget cut
- 19 have not been doing production lately
- 20 the staff were rude. Lots of staff on the time clock but when you needed someone, no one was there- you had to hunt them down. I did not like the station manager either. She would rather spend high dollars for stupid crap than she would invest in sets for the producers to use.

9. Please specify any other communications tools or innovations that may help reduce the cost of public access in

- | # | Response |
|----|--|
| 1 | partnerships with schools and/or colleges |
| 2 | dunno. I only use YouTube for short videos, but I used to produce 1/2 hour public access shows, which I do not have the equipment to do now. |
| 3 | I would need to know what the costs are before identifying strategies to reduce them. I am very interested in further participation in this process. |
| 4 | I do not want to reduce the cost of public access, I want MORE funds to go toward it. Perhaps elimination of overhead/excesses at Dolt and CTTAB, and redirection of "human interest" monies from the "government channel" (Seattle Channel) to public access could help solve this problem. |
| 5 | The cable fees paid to the City of Seattle are totally adequate to support public access. Stop raiding the bread box! |
| 6 | As technology gets better, costs go down. Can streamline costs of access provider by focusing on core values of production, post-production, and support of programming. Make processes for producers and provider staff more efficient by tracking and analyzing use patterns and scheduling personnel accordingly. |
| 7 | Partnerships with neighboring cities? |
| 8 | there is no way to reduce cost without reducing the quality and number of programs. |
| 9 | There is no need to reduce the cost for public access in Seattle. Public Access deserves an equal share of funds towards local programming. As long as government access is funded at such a high level then public should be funded equally. |
| 10 | I believe these things will promote SCAN and help "spread the word" that will bring in more viewers and maybe more sponsors or donators. I do not believe it can reduce the cost. In fact, you will need a new group of people to maintain this equipment or process. |
| 11 | Stronger links between Seattle Channel staff and equipment and public access programming and production staff. More visibility to PA programs on Seattle Channel, City's web site. Stronger links between existing new media (Crosscut, SLOG, Publicola, neighborhood blogs, etc. |
| 12 | YouTube is not an alternative to public access. Can't post full shows. |
| 13 | hire starving children from china and work them sweat shop style? I don't know. |
| 14 | I don't think tax dollars should be used for these tools anymore. Fund desperately needed social services and fix infrastructure first. |
| 15 | ???? Cable companies are ripping us off. Need to force them to provide a la carte programming rather than "packages" so users pay true costs rather than cross subsidizing |
| 16 | Cut the salaries of the Seattle Channel (21) personnel to give an equitable salary to your tireless SCAN public access (77) servants. |
| 17 | N/A |

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- 18 Seattle has lost its only public access station. They have the facilities, the equipment, the staff (now made redundant) and the software. They lost funding by both the city and the cable carrier in Seattle. Imagine, a plugged in city like Seattle with no community access TV program !! PLEASE contact the mayor Mike McGinn and scream HELP!!
- 19 While a combination of taped and digital media is still useful, providing capital funds to the access manager for a tapeless, HD conversion would pay for itself in no time, eliminate waste and increase efficiency. Having more classes on combining studio-quality programming with social media (marketing and content aggregation) would be helpful.
- 20 replacement of the city channel (propaganda of the those in power) with public access (chance for the disenfranchised to communicate)
- 21 By routing the franchise fee directly to SCAN NOT via the Seattle General Fund. And investigate misappropriation of previous funds.
- 22 n/a
- 23 I cant think of any but Scan should air shows asking more support from the public
- 24 Cut the budget of the Seattle Channel and give the money to SCAN. It would be money better spent and more cost effective.
- 25 Wikipedia
- 26 If there were tools to reduce the cost, then the Seattle Channel government channel for the City should be using them to reduce costs. However, the Seattle Channels budget has increased greatly since home use of the internet. If there is so much money for elected officials to have a station (which I support & watch) then the citizen's should also have a voice/station in counterbalance
- 27 You have it backwards. The city should be putting more money into public access. However, you could get rid of of the Cable office and transfer it to the Law Dept. That would be a big help.
- 28 A leaner staff only dedicated to serving access community and NPO's. Support on how to create web pages with video capabilities.
- 29 Provide an environment conducive to SCAN raising more of it's own funds (i.e. on-air sponsorships, pledge drives, *ahem* promotion by the city....)
- 30 Have volunteers become certified and run the channel as volunteers. Also, create a volunteer group for fundraising.
- 31 Sell the studio. Seriously. Why have a production facility with studios if the quality of work that comes out of it is WORSE that what can be done at home? It's like renting a Panavision Genesis only to convert the file to mini DV. Big expensive system for terrible result that nobody wants to watch. There shouldn't be censorship but SOME quality requirements on the "watchable value" of shows aired.
- 32 If you prioritize enriching the community's voice, then you wouldn't be cutting the cost of public access in Seattle.
- 33 use volunteer service
- 34 N/A
- 35 The Internet, YouTube, and so forth provide public access surpassing in quantity, quality, and accessibility anything provided by SCAN. SCAN is obsolete and should be shut down.
- 36 Twitter "on air now" notices like @kcts9 does.
- 37 close the station and studio. It cost way too much money to run scan as it is. Scan has had big dollars over the years and has not used it wisely. just close the station.

13. Please provide any other comments and suggestions for improving Public Access in Seattle.

Response

- 1 I know YouTube is popular, but I still think in-studio equipment and training is important.
- 2 I feel this is vital for Seattle to continue to provide open access to TV programming.
- 3 I'm interested in learning how to use the equipment at SCAN. Although I have not had time to do so recently, I am still very interested in that opportunity. I believe that learning how to use media tools is absolutely critical and essential to the continued success of SCAN. I am very interested in further participation in this process.
- 4 Who wants to improve it? I like it the way it has been, and it really burns me the way this whole thing is going down. If you really want to "improve" public access, I suggest adequate funding. That is to say, one third of the franchise fees should be given to public access, one third to education channels, one third to government channels- did you ever notice that the "P" comes first in "P.E.G."? The main distraction right now on SCAN TV is the poor audio quality due to outdated equipment. I can make suggestions from here until Doomsday, but that isn't going to fix the infrastructure of the station. Furthermore, I have yet to see evidence that ANY public input has been considered in this process, so I feel like I'm wasting my energy right now. Bah!

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- 5 Stop raiding the funding for this program supported solely by cable fees. SCAN TV/public access is the new public square of ideas and free speech. Stop trying to dismantle this venue for democracy. U.S. democracy supports the people. Continue supporting the people as SCAN TV operated as of December 1, 2010. When I do use the SCAN facility in the future, I do not plan to pay for the services as the intent of the cable fees is to support public access for FREE.
- 6 Public access is a service provided to the local community and needs to reach out to the community in a more active and interactive manner. More youth workshops are needed to offset the digital divide that exists. These workshops can be supported by grants and donations and could offer equipment to youth production teams that could make them independent producers. Equipment is an important part of access.
- 7 I realize SCAN is available through an arrangement with the cable companies, but there seem to be plenty of people in the area (myself included) who don't subscribe to cable so can't access the channel.
- 8 I feel that public access is important to continue, and that youtube isn't an equivalent alternative. Public access is important to the Public. This is really one of the only ways the general public can get involved in broadcasting, and have their content reach a wide audience that may not have access to computer generated content.
- 9 Restore the funding and possible increase the funding.
- 10 More support of existing services already provided by SCAN.
- 11 I understand there is a new boss in town. I want to know which way you see public access going so I know whether to spend my time volunteering to keep SCAN going or to go find a new station to show my shows.
- 12 Please use this transition to think holistically about *all* forms of new media and civic and public communication, not just "public access" as the bottom of the media food chain.
- 13 Limiting or closing Scan TV is irresponsible
- 14 Won't have shows I like without a public access facility. I watch live shows such as Hot Rocks, Blues to Do, and Public Exposure. Watch shows that use SCAN cameras and edit studios such as Homelessness in King County and Sound Sports.
- 15 How about keeping people around? Not everyone has the internet or speaks English. I can't believe you're asking these questions after having the old public access place shut down. You have no idea what you're doing.
- 16 Flip the funding - The Seattle Channel could easily be run on minimal staff and a meager budget. SCAN (or whoever takes over) needs the bigger budget to maintain it's value and relevance to the community. It makes far more sense, both pragmatically and economically, to operate the Seattle Channel with a minimal budget and a skeleton crew staff. There's no reason city hall meetings couldn't be taped with cheap, consumer-grade HD camcorders that are locked down onto fixed tripods... ultimately being podcast on-demand via the Seattle Channel's website.
- 17 Get rid of it.
- 18 Please bring back Public Access to Seattle.
- 19 Privatize/outsource it to schools, Cornish college, UW, High schools, Northwest Film Forum. If they can be encouraged to make it part of the curriculum then problem solved. Question/statement 14 is a lie: "To ensure accuracy, you must provide a valid email address:" is simply a false statement.
- 20 Under the P.E.G. give equitable funding to public access - on a par with Seattle gov't Channel 21 and the educational channels.
- 21 Better Streaming Access By Cable Broadcast TV
- 22 Seattle has lost its only public access station. They have the facilities, the equipment, the staff (now made redundant) and the software. They lost funding by both the city and the cable carrier in Seattle. Imagine, a plugged in city like Seattle with no community access TV program !! PLEASE contact the mayor Mike McGinn and scream HELP!!
- 23 Just keep it on!! AND fund them!! It's just as important as the seahawk stadium
- 24 Get specific entries for public access programming in TV Guide. Allow the new access manager to negotiate a contract directly with the cable provider. Improve transparency and communication between the access manager, DoIT and the Office of Cable Communications. Eliminating public access television and moving access to an internet based platform is not a viable option - internet access is not city wide and it further marginalizes poor and immigrant populations.
- 25 Take the money for the city channel and give it to public access
- 26 Let SCAN remain to get freedom of speech out to the public.
- 27 All included in this fraudulent activity to defy the Telecommunications Bill and original Franchise and contractual agreements had better start making things right or face prosecution.
- 28 SCAN is important to me. My quality of life is improved by being able to watch SCAN.
- 29 If you care about Public Access,listen to producers and provide funding.
- 30 Keep SCAN TV alive
- 31 Bring back the facility staff and restore funding.

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- 32 The City should get out of the way and allow the subscribers of cable directly fund public access on their cable bills. I think I will start a petition drive to do exactly this, much like what Planned Parenthood did with donor designated dollars when they opened up the United Way campaign.
- 33 more local content; more how to's applicable to local area, Netflix streaming availability
- 34 The City/Comcast franchise agreement should include a 15-20 cent monthly charge per customer to go solely to the public access station. If that can't be agreed on, then 30% of the Seattle Channel's budget should be moved to public access. The Seattle channel has moved too much away from being a government and information channel to producing arts works. I'm sure this is more fun for the employees, but should be left to the public educational channels, of which there are several.
- 35 According to friends and associates in the adult education and English as a Second Language profession, public Access is critical to under-served ethnic communities in Seattle.
- 36 The problem is the Cable Office, not public access.
- 37 Have program titles, listings, times displayed on cable guide like all the other channels.
- 38 It is painfully obvious that the powers that be here in Seattle have completely missed the point of public access, and frankly don't have a clue about the issue. This is evidenced by the questions asked in this survey. This display of ignorance (and a little arrogance) is nowhere better illustrated than in the options provided as possible "alternatives" to a dedicated local cable channel for public access. First of all, there is no comparing Youtube to a Cable Channel. That's insulting to my intelligence as a television viewer, and I'm *positive* that must feel like a kick in the teeth to anyone that does their best to produce programming for public access. Telling these people that have had their show on at the same day and time (for years in some cases) that their new outlet is Youtube and telling them it's just as good is like pissing on their leg and telling them it's raining. Sadly, the options only get more ludicrous and bizarre from there. Blogging. Are. You. Effing. Kidding me? Blogs are typed up journals and editorial-like pieces usually written by self-important pseudo-intellectual self-declared "experts" or "critics" (what most of us would call douche-bags). More importantly THEY ARE NOT CENTERED AROUND VIDEO PRODUCTION!! I can't think of anything that has less in common with the creative process, talent, time and effort that goes into making a television or film production. One is text and one is motion picture. And then, it got worse. FACEBOOK???! Wow. I
- 39 Free speech through public access needs to be maintained. It is unfortunate that the budget crisis led to this cut, however, I hope in the future, funding will flow back to it.
- 40 Please keep SCAN! It is very important that the public have access to broadcast, and watch messages that are "unfiltered"
- 41 To keep it on the air, Public Access provided News and cultural programming not available on standard tv
- 42 We need truth and free speech
- 43 Publicize online videos better. Maybe a twitter feed for when new shows become available?
- 44 Bring in a CREATIVE and INNOVATIVE thinker. NOT some old washed up former broadcast engineers that got out of the serious game decades ago. Look at YOUNGER, responsible, big thinking, creative INDIE filmmaker(s) because they know entertainment AND how to do great things on the cheap. You need NEW PEOPLE with NEW ideas. Insanity is doing the same thing over and over again expecting a different result. SCAN hasn't changed or improved since the early 90's. The OLD formula just DOESN'T WORK. If you can tell I'm frustrated it's because I am. I tried to bring a big idea to them and they loved it but they acted like changing anything to accommodate a bigger idea was just impossible. NOBODY who worked there seemed to have any passion anymore and I don't blame them and it broke my heart to see how things were done there because I saw it hindering any possibility of REAL programming. I'm not talking about just my show but bringing real quality to ALL the shows. I've worked on everything from studio productions (Nickelodeon's "Teen Nick" with Bennett HD in LA) to volunteer productions at my church put on completely by volunteers and in this process I have seen remarkable similarities just different budgets. The volunteer show at my church won a local EMMY for best musical or comedy special and that was produced COMPLETELY by volunteers with the guidance of a few staff members, most of whom had never worked in the entertainment profession a day in their life. My point is simply: Start with NEW people with NEW ideas. You have nothing to loose at this point except
- 45 Continue to provide training, provide incentives for people with the experience and know-how to teach classes. Free Schools.
- 46 Keep on the program as it was.
- 47 needs a new formula to provide training, media literacy and empowerment while utilizing the new communications options for outreach.
- 48 There is a *huge* gap between the production skills and quality level of youtube-like videos, and professional/amateur productions on cable and public access. It is the industrial/professional atmosphere of public access that propels people interested in the media and industry in to real careers.
- 49 include access to basic cable, and govt channels as "included in rent" for all HUD & LIHTC housing in Seattle. Require the "Cable" companies to provide it as a community service, like Clearwire provided WiFi to the Seattle Public Schools.
- 50 I have none except to close scan. that would be the most efficient way to deal with scan
- 51 Public access cannot be replaced by the internet because there are many people (i.e. the elderly) who don't use computers, so their access will be cut off.