

Milwaukee Alderman Rainey: Seeks greater reach for Milwaukee's City Channel

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Alderman Khalif J. Rainey is leading an effort to increase viewer accessibility to programming on the City Channel.

The City Channel provides live and replay telecasts of Common Council and Council Committee meetings, as well as gavel-to-gavel coverage of other city boards and commissions, special city events and other informational programming. Currently, live City Channel programming is available for free through the city's [live-streaming website](#), and to cable subscribers with Spectrum and AT&T U-Verse.

Alderman Rainey is working with the Office of the City Clerk to explore possibly making the City Channel available via analog over-the-air signal to allow thousands of additional viewers to access the channel's vital programming.

"With the current U-Verse problem (the City Channel is currently unavailable for all AT&T U-Verse customers while a critical piece of encoding equipment is repaired) it really highlights how access to City Channel programming is limited, especially for people who don't have the means to buy cable and Internet service," Alderman Rainey said.

"The size of a citizen's wallet should not determine their level of access to City Channel programming and that is what I am hoping to change by looking into the possibility of access via over-the-air signal," he said.

City Clerk Jim Owczarski said he is working on a broader plan to expand the outreach capability of the City Channel to allow for greater accessibility on various platforms. “The (over-the-air) request from Alderman Rainey will now be included in that plan, which I expect to be presented to the Steering and Rules Committee this fall,” he said.