MetroVision squares-off with Muirwood

MetroVision officials are appealing directly to the residents of Farmington fillis' Multwood apartments to get the ball rolling on cable-TV Institution.

After 18 months of off-egain, on-again negotiations with the Benne Co., Multwood's owners, MetroVision is getting tough with the large apartment complex on Grand River and Drake.

'Il just dragged oo,' said Bob McCann, MetroVision general manager.

ger.

A Bernos spokeswoman, on the other hand, declined comment on what's holding up negotiations.

"I can't go into that," she said, citing a lack of time as the reason for refusing to discuss the details of negotiations.

Earlier this month, meanwhile.

A contract, for the most part, is a wiring agreement that allows the cable firm an easement to put the cable lines MetroVision malled about 800 letters to Mulwood residents asking them to fill out a form expressing interest in fill out a form expressing interest in Awing cable TV installed.

"We hope that as a result of your requests, the owners will become willing to continue negotiations with us about providing you with cable TV," the letter stated. "After all, it's in their best interest to make sure that Mulrwood residents are not deprived of the option to subscribe to cable."

As of this week, McCann gaid, about firm an easement to put the cable lines on private property.

The contract, as allowed by the tricity's franchise and cable ordinance, can also include provisions for the apartment owners to charge MetroVision an access fee — a charge above the cost of installing cable in their units. nts. That fee is determined by the apart-

to subscribe to cable."
As of this week, McCann said, about
154 residents have returned their
forms requesting cable TV.
Although MetroVision began installing cable in Farmington and Farmington Hills neighborhoods "In January
1983, apartment residents have had to
wait for cable until MetroVision and
the apartment-complex owners reach
an agreement allowing cable installailon.

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That fee is determined by the spart-ment-complex owner.
MetroVision, in turn, has the option of passing that fee on to its subscribers in addition to the rates they will pay for whatever tier of cable service they choose.
But McCann says that about 99 percent of all the apartment complexes don't charge an access fee.
More than 7,500 of the roughly 12,000 "multi-unit dwellings" in Farmington, Farmington Hills and Novi have higned up for cable TV, according to MetroVision's letter to Mulrwood residents.

But Mulwood is one of the last ma-residents.
But Mulwood is one of the last ma-jor apartment complexes in the iri-city franchise area that is yet to be wired for cable.
Chatham Hills apartment on Grand River, owned by Standard Manage-nect, also has not had cable installed, McCann said.
Independence Green residents, how-ever, will be receiving cable service within weeks, he added.

Despite the longstanding negotiations with nuirwood, MetroVision is determined to provide residents with cable TV.

The cable firm's next step, McCann said, is to provide Bernos with a date when cable construction will begin. Until then, he said, distroVision officials will negotiate."

If MetroVision cannot work out an agreement with Bernos, condemnation proceedings can be started against the spartment complex, McCann said. That would allow the cable firm to receive its needed easements for cable installa-

Uon and to provide residents with canie service.
Condemnation proceedings, however, have not been started, McCann said.
Mcanwhile, Beznos officials are also looking into installing private cable such as SMATV (Satellite Master Antenna Television), according to the MctroVision letter.
"We're looking into several things," said a Beznos spokeswoman. "A decision will be made."

McCann says that it's "line" if McCann says that it's "line" if Pernos chooses to install a private system. But he is quick to add that the pri-

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vate system must meet the same tri-city requirements MetroVision met when they were awarded the franchise, "Legally, if you request cable, you can have it," he said.

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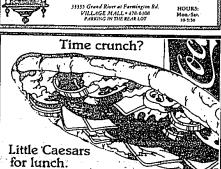
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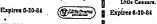


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