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July 9, 1969

City of
Mr. George Sipel
Assistant City Manager
Palo Alto, Calif.

Dear Mr. Sipel

Is it reasonable for me to ask you for a copy of the staff report on CATV for Palo Alto?

Have you availed yourself of consultation with some of our Stanford professors who might have very useful information and expertise on the exciting possibilities in this area? (For my own part, I have more enthusiastic interest than that kind of expertise.) I am concerned, as I am sure you are, lest we think too "small" in this area, and become locked in with a confiningly narrow interest. But I must see your report before commenting further.

Yours sincerely,

CATV franchise protested 6-8-69 by Palo Alto

Palo Alto officials aren't anxious for any neighborly competition should the city decide to enter the field of Community Antenna Television (CATV).

The City Council Monday night voted to protest a proposed grant of a franchise to State Video Cable Inc. that would cover unincorporated areas within the Palo Alto-Mountain View Judicial District.

The grant request will come before the Santa Clara County supervisors on July 22. City participation in CATV is under study in the council's finance committee as a possible outgrowth of the city's undergrounding of wires program.

George Sipel, assistant city manager, said in a staff report that since the subject is now under study, granting of a franchise would be "premature." Mountain View will also protest, he said.