



Old Astoria Neighborhood Association (OANA)  
www.OANA-NY.org

May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2022

## Eliminate the jungle of overhead cables!

One of the most pervasive, yet often ignored quality of life issues is the canopy of overhead wires, especially from Cable Companies, that infests most of Astoria (And NYC).

Next time you walk down the street, imagine in your mind's eye the elimination of these overhead cables. This would have a profound psychological and physical effect on that walk: No longer surrounded by chaos, but instead open sky views, and unencumbered visions of the streets and horizon.

One huge issue is the fact that when cable companies install new service, they do not remove the cables from the old service, and they multiply and overrun our streets like some malignant growth.

Even when Con Ed has tried pilot programs where they buried their service, the cable companies would not join in...So this is not a solution.

We propose creating "Common" cables for the transmission of data into our streets and homes. Each living space should have a cable that would be used by all cable services, eliminating the need for changing and adding cables every time the service provider changes.

This would greatly reduce installation and maintenance costs to the cable companies, and these funds can both reduce subscriber costs, and be taxed to fund the government maintenance of the new "Common" cable system.

This is exactly how we now handle the movement of goods. We have "Common" roads and highways. We do not ask trucking companies and individuals to build their own roads... We all share in our government-maintained road and highway system.



Old Astoria Neighborhood Association (OANA)  
[www.OANA-NY.org](http://www.OANA-NY.org)

Movement of data should not be any different. Some entity, either the government, developer or property owner will provide single cables into the building, and the government can provide the same single cables on the streets.

An interface can be created at a “Hub” when different cables companies can access the system to provide their signal.

And with this, it becomes more feasible to bury service, as it does not have to be accessed every time there is a change in service provider.

This is a simple, common-sense solution to an issue that affects us all. This is the kind of issue government was created for, and we hope our elected officials support this proposal.

Richard Khuzami

President

Old Astoria Neighborhood Association