



AGENDA MEMORANDUM

Action Item for the City Council Meeting of November 12, 2019

DATE: November 12, 2019

TO: Peter Zanoni, City Manager

FROM: Peter Collins, Interim Chief Officer of Information Technology
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Upgrade Network and Computers at La Retama Central and McDonald Libraries
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CAPTION:

Motion authorizing two purchases for a total amount of \$180,293.42; one with Computer Solutions, of San Antonio, Texas in an amount of \$121,793.42 for network equipment, and second with Dell EMC, of Round Rock, Texas in an amount of \$58,500.00 for 60 All-in-One Desktop computers; to be used by the community of Corpus Christi at the public libraries and increase broadband capability, effective upon issuance of a purchase order, with funding available in CDBG Grants fund.

SUMMARY:

This motion authorizes a purchase with Computer Solutions in an amount of \$121,793.42 for network equipment and Dell EMC in an amount of \$58,500.00 for 60 All-in-One Desktop computers, for a total amount of \$180,293.42, to be used by the community of Corpus Christi at our public libraries and increase broadband capability.

BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS:

On July 17, 2018, the Housing and Community Development (HCD) Department held a public hearing and 1st Reading Ordinance for the FY2018-2019 Consolidated Annual Action Plan (CAAP). HCD recommended Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)

funding to the Library Department in the amount of \$214,804.00 to improve broadband capability at the Ben F. McDonald and La Retama Libraries. On July 24, 2018, the CAAP was approved with all funding recommendations. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development has also approved this project.

The FCC established broadband goals of 100 Mbps for smaller libraries and 1 Gbps for larger libraries, currently the Corpus Christi Public Libraries system shares 50 Mbps amongst its six locations. Upgrading the network switches and routers at La Retama Central and McDonald Library, with CDBG grant funds, will increase the bandwidth to 1 Gbps. To benefit from the increased bandwidth public use computers will also be upgraded. This project will also fund the installation of wireless access points at La Retama Central and McDonald Library.

The McDonald Library is being transitioned into a Technology Learning Center to integrate new services and expand current services for the community. New services will consist of becoming a HiSet testing site. HiSet students earn a high school equivalency certification. The Corpus Christi Literacy Council (CCLC) is housed at the McDonald Library and library staff will be utilizing the CCLC lab to provide financial and digital literacy classes to the public.

The procurement is through the DIR Cooperative. Contracts awarded through the DIR Cooperative have been competitively procured and are in compliance with Texas Local and State procurement requirements.

ALTERNATIVES:

An alternative would be not to replace the equipment. However, the equipment currently at the library is old and has not been updated. Without the addition of new computers and network, the community will not have the ability to take advantage of services offered.

FISCAL IMPACT:

CDBG grant funds in the amount of \$214,804.00 are being utilized for the project. This item uses \$180,293.42 for the purchase of network equipment and desktop computers. The remaining grant funds will supply the wireless access points, cabling and network cabinets.

Funding Detail:

Fund:	1059	CDBG Grants
Organization/Activity:	851903F	McDonald Library Broadband
Mission Element:	131	Admin Neighborhood & Housing Grants
Project # (CIP Only):	N/A	
Account:	530000	Professional Services

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of this motion authorizing the purchase of network equipment with Computer Solutions and 60 All-in-One Desktop computers with Dell.

LIST OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

Price Sheet