

R-36

June 15, 2021

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

City of Long Beach

California

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager, or designee, to execute a contract, and any necessary documents and subsequent amendments, with Citizens Telecommunications Company of California, Inc., dba Frontier Communications (Frontier), to occupy, place, and maintain attachments on Frontier poles and use conduits for the purpose of extending telecommunication services to the Santa Fe Avenue Synchronization Enhancement Project, in an annual amount not to exceed \$20,000, for a period of ten years. (Citywide)

DISCUSSION

City Council approval is requested to enter into a contract with Citizens Telecommunications Company of California, Inc. dba Frontier Communications (Frontier), for pole attachments and conduit occupancy. This agreement will allow the City to leverage Frontier's conduits, ducts, innerducts, manholes/handholes, and poles west of Atlantic Avenue in the City's limits to extend fiber network infrastructure to the Santa Fe Avenue corridor to support the Santa Fe Avenue Synchronization Enhancement Project (Project), a project under the City's Traffic Signal Synchronization Program. This Project aligns with the City's fiber network and digital inclusion initiatives.

The Public Works (PW) Department has received funding from the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) to perform capital improvements and traffic signal synchronization along the Santa Fe Avenue corridor. The Project is due for completion in December 2021 and completion is dependent on installing fiber across Anaheim Street and across Wardlow Road to the City's fiber infrastructure. Frontier already has conduits crossing the Los Angeles River and Interstate 710, which have previously been used by the City, that provide the most direct access to the Project location. This agreement will enable the City to use the conduits to extend the City's fiber network to the Project site to ensure timely completion.

On March 4, 2021, the PW, Technology and Innovation (TI) and Economic Development (ED) Departments released a memorandum to the City Council providing an update on the Citywide Fiber Network Infrastructure Initiative. As described in the update, TI issued RFI No. TI19-064 and did vendor outreach to identify potential private sector service providers and legacy fiber infrastructure in existence within the City's limits. As part of these outreach efforts, Frontier was identified as owning conduits and poles within the

geographic boundaries in the north, west and south of the City's limits, as well as east of Atlantic Avenue. The identified conduits and poles align with the area identified in the Project.

On April 7, 2021, PW and TI released a memorandum to the City Council providing an update on the City's Dig Once Policy. Under this policy, City departments continue to coordinate projects and opportunities to minimize public right-of-way impacts and costs to develop the City's fiber infrastructure. Approval of this agreement with Frontier will align with the City's Dig Once Policy by maximizing access to existing conduit infrastructure, already in existence within the City, while coordinating construction plans led by PW. PW and TI will continue the coordination between numerous stakeholders and extend partnerships between the City and providers in the goal to bring fiber to underserved areas of Long Beach.

City Charter Section 1801 requires that contracts for City purchases be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder after a competitive bid process but allows for awards without a competitive bid process when authorized by a Resolution adopted by the City Council. TI conducted a Request for Information (RFI) to determine which service providers have conduits in various parts of the City. Frontier is the only known service provider that owns conduits located on or near the bridge pathways allowing for the most direct east/west access into the Santa Fe corridor; therefore, no useful purpose would be served by advertising for bids and to do so would constitute an unnecessary expenditure of public funds.

This matter was reviewed by Deputy City Attorney Erin Weesner-McKinley on May 26, 2021, Business Services Bureau Manager Tara Mortensen on May 19, 2021, and by Budget Management Officer Rhutu Amin-Gharib on May 25, 2021.

TIMING CONSIDERATIONS

City Council action to adopt a Resolution and award a contract concurrently is requested on June 15, 2021, to ensure the Project can be implemented in the targeted timeframe.

FISCAL IMPACT

The estimated annual contract costs, including subsequent amendments, will not exceed \$20,000 annually. Sufficient appropriation is budgeted in the General Services Fund Group in the Technology and Innovation Department and is recovered from client departments through the annual TI Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). This recommendation has no staffing impact beyond normal budgeted scope of duties and is consistent with existing City Council priorities. There is no local job impact associated with this recommendation.

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SUGGESTED ACTION:

Approve recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,



LEA D. ERIKSEN
DIRECTOR OF TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION



ERIC LOPEZ
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

ATTACHMENT: RESOLUTION

APPROVED:



THOMAS B. MODICA
CITY MANAGER

RESOLUTION NO.

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LONG BEACH AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT, AND ANY AMENDMENTS THERETO, WITH CITIZENS TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMPANY OF CALIFORNIA INC. DBA FRONTIER COMMUNICATIONS, WITHOUT ADVERTISING FOR BIDS, TO OCCUPY, PLACE AND MAINTAIN ATTACHMENTS ON FRONTIER POLES AND USE CONDUITS FOR THE PURPOSE OF EXTENDING TELECOMMUNICATION SERVICES TO THE SANTA FE AVENUE SYNCHRONIZATION ENHANCEMENT PROJECT FOR AN ANNUAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$20,000 FOR A PERIOD OF TEN YEARS

WHEREAS, in 2017, the Technology and Innovation (TI) Department began to prepare a Citywide Fiber Network Infrastructure Initiative with the intent of expanding the fiber network to all areas of the City; and

WHEREAS, certain areas of the City are not connected to fiber connections, thereby limiting resident, business, and educational access to stable internet services; and

WHEREAS, one area that has been identified as particularly underserved by fiber services is the Santa Fe Corridor in West Long Beach. This area is particularly challenging to access for fiber network expansion due to the LA River running north/south in the western segment of the City; and

WHEREAS, TI conducted a Request for Information to determine which service providers have conduits in various parts of the City, and Citizens

1 Telecommunications Company of California Inc. dba Frontier Communications (Frontier)
2 was the only known service provider that owns conduits located on or near the bridge
3 pathways allowing for east/west access into the Santa Fe corridor; and

4 WHEREAS, the Department of Public Works has received funding from the
5 Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority to perform capital
6 improvements and traffic signal synchronization along the Santa Fe Avenue Corridor; and

7 WHEREAS, the Project should be completed by December 2021 and
8 completion is dependent on installing fiber across Anaheim Street and across Wardlow
9 Road to the City's fiber infrastructure; and

10 WHEREAS, combining TI's efforts to lay fiber cable at the same time as
11 Public Works' Project is consistent with the City's Dig Once Policy; and

12 WHEREAS, Frontier already has conduits crossing the Los Angeles River
13 and Interstate 710 which have previously been used by the City that provides the most
14 direct access to the Project location; and

15 WHEREAS, this agreement will enable the City to use the conduits to
16 extend the City's fiber network to the Project site so that the Project may be timely
17 completed; and

18 WHEREAS, no useful purpose would be served by advertising for bids and
19 to do so would constitute an idle and useless act and an unnecessary expenditure of
20 public funds;

21 NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Long Beach resolves as
22 follows:

23 Section 1. The above recitals are true and correct and are incorporated
24 herein.

25 Section 2. The City Manager is hereby authorized to execute a contract,
26 and any amendments thereto, with Citizens Telecommunications Company of California
27 Inc. dba Frontier Communications, to occupy, place, and maintain attachments on
28 Frontier poles and conduits for the purpose of extending telecommunication services on

1 the Santa Fe Avenue Synchronization Enhancement Project, in an annual amount of
2 Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000) for a period of ten (10) years.

3 Section 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption
4 by the City Council, and the City Clerk shall certify the vote adopting this resolution.

5 I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the City
6 Council of the City of Long Beach at its meeting of _____, 2021
7 by the following vote:

8
9 Ayes: Councilmembers: _____

10 _____

11 _____

12 _____

13 Noes: Councilmembers: _____

14 _____

15 Absent: Councilmembers: _____

16 _____

17 Recusal(s): Councilmembers: _____

18
19 _____

City Clerk