



**To:** Members of Dublin City Council

**From:** Marsha I. Grigsby, City Manager *MIG*

**Date:** June 6, 2013

**Initiated By:** Dana L. McDaniel, Deputy City Manager/Director of Economic Development

**Re: Resolution 35-13 – Waiving Competitive Bidding for the Construction of Certain Fiber Optic Routes**

## Background

As Council is aware, the City possesses a 125-mile conduit and fiber optic system throughout Central Ohio known as DubLink. Approximately 25 miles of DubLink is located within Dublin's commercial district (see attached). City Council budgets on an ongoing basis for the replacement and extension of the DubLink system within its Five-Year Capital Improvements Program (CIP). Staff proposes the following two projects in order to ensure the reliability of the entire system:

Project 1: Hard Road and Riverside Drive Fiber Replacement. In 2001, the City deployed fiber optics within its sanitary sewer system along portions of Hard Road and Riverside Drive. This was a first of its kind deployment in North America. Due to unanticipated deterioration of this portion of the sanitary sewer system, staff proposes to replace these fiber optics. These fiber optics will be replaced with a combination of new underground conduit and fiber along Hard Road and new fiber optics placed on existing utility poles along Riverside Drive between Hard Road and the Emerald Parkway Bridge (see attached). The existing fibers are "live" with users. Therefore, replacing these fibers and "cutting over" services will be challenging. The estimated cost for this project is \$87,950.

Project 2: Post Road Fiber Extension. DubLink was extended to the 7003 and 7001 Post Road buildings in support of the Dublin Entrepreneurial Center. Staff proposes to complete the extension of DubLink from the Post Road buildings to Hospital Drive in order to "loop" the system on its westernmost edge (see attached). Extending this portion of the system and "closing the loop" will greatly benefit the Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine, associated development and set the conditions for potential development in the general area of the Post Road interchange. This portion of the system will be constructed using a combination of underground conduit with fiber optics and fiber optics attached to existing utility poles. The estimated cost of this project is \$86,112. Ohio University has expressed a willingness to contribute to the cost of this particular project.

These projects will be paid for using funds allocated in the Five-Year CIP.

Resolution No. 35-13 proposes to waive competitive bidding in the best interest of the City for the following reasons:

1. The replacement of fiber optics and construction and splicing of new fiber optics is particularly sensitive due to the DubLink system being "live" with multiple users.
2. Columbus Fibernet/Fishel Company has been responsible for the design, construction, maintenance and management of the DubLink system since its inception.

3. Columbus Fibernet/Fishel Company has had the ongoing responsibility to ensure the operational integrity and accountability of the system's fibers.
4. Staff is confident that Columbus Fibernet/Fishel Company possesses the knowledge and capacity to ensure the operational integrity of the system during the replacement, construction of new fiber and respond to any disruptions in service that may occur during the process.
5. Columbus Fibernet/Fishel Company would retain the responsibility of the integrity of the system before, during and after the replacement and construction of the new fibers. This would allow for a seamless "ownership" of the system's integrity.
6. Staff is confident that the estimates provided for these projects are competitive, based on other similar projects such as the Time Warner Telecommunications Hub project.

### **Recommendation**

Staff recommends Council approval of Resolution No. 35-13. Please contact Dana McDaniel should you have any questions.

# RECORD OF RESOLUTIONS

Dayton Legal Blank, Inc., Form No. 30045

**35-13**

Resolution No. \_\_\_\_\_

Passed \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_

**A RESOLUTION WAIVING COMPETITIVE BIDDING REQUIREMENTS, PURSUANT TO SECTION 8.04 ("CONTRACTING PROCEDURES"), PARAGRAPH (C) ("WAIVER OF COMPETITIVE BIDDING") FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF CERTAIN FIBER OPTIC ROUTES AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH COLUMBUS FIBERNET**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Dublin possesses over 125 miles of conduit and fiber optics together being referred to as DubLink; and

**WHEREAS**, the City desires to undertake two projects to ensure the reliability of the entire system; and

**WHEREAS**, one project will replace a portion of the DubLink system due to the unanticipated failure of certain pipe housing the system; and

**WHEREAS**, one project requires new construction in order to ensure the integrity of the greater DubLink system and to set the conditions for further economic development; and

**WHEREAS**, the Fishel Company and its subsidiary, Columbus Fibernet, have been responsible for the design, construction, management and maintenance of the DubLink system, since its inception; and

**WHEREAS**, it is critical to maintain the operational integrity of the DubLink system in order to protect users of the system during the fiber replacement and extension process; and

**WHEREAS**, Council has determined that it is in the best interest of the City to waive competitive bidding for these projects; and

**WHEREAS**, Council has anticipated the need for such projects in its Five Year Capital Improvements Program; and

**WHEREAS**, Council has determined that the quote submitted by Columbus Fibernet in the amount not to exceed \$175,000 is fair and appropriate.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Council of the City of Dublin, State of Ohio, \_\_\_\_\_ of the elected members concurring that:

Section 1. Competitive bidding requirements are hereby waived for the replacement and construction of certain fiber optic routes.

Section 2. The City Manager is hereby authorized to enter into an agreement with Columbus Fibernet for the replacement and construction of certain fiber optic routes in an amount not to exceed \$175,000.

Section 3. This Resolution shall take effect and be in force upon passage in accordance with Section 4.04(a) of the Revised Charter.

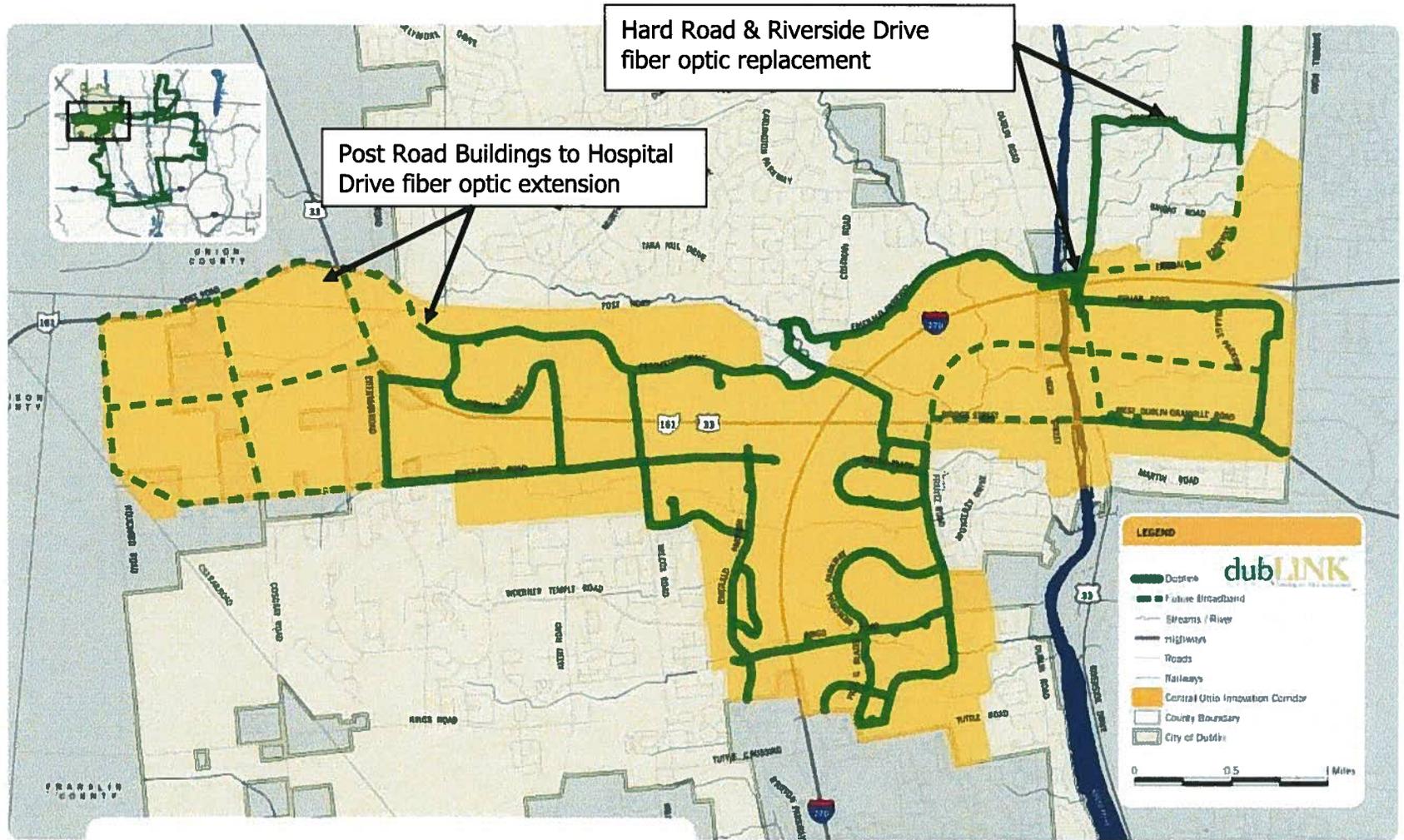
Passed this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2013.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor – Presiding Officer

ATTES

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk of Council

# ATTACHMENT



City-Owned  
Optical Fiber Network

