



To: Members of Dublin City Council
From: Dana L. McDaniel, City Manager
Initiated Michael Farrar, Director of Information Technology
By: Jennifer Klus, Director of Economic Development
Date: September 20, 2022
Re: Resolution No. 43-22, Resolution Declaring Sole Source and Authorizing the City Manager to enter into an Agreement with the Fishel Company/Columbus Fibernet/Dublink LLC to Deploy and Splice Certain Fiber Optics

Background

The West Innovation District (WID) is intended to be a showcase business community for forward thinking companies that desire high-tech office space, clean manufacturing facilities, and related supporting uses. Furthermore, freeway visibility and access, proximity to the Ohio University-Dublin Campus, and R&D locations along the 33 Smart Mobility Corridor make this section of Dublin ideally situated for future development. However, as it stands now, there is no access to Dublink Fiber in the area and only a few physical assets for businesses to locate within.

The innovative businesses that WID is intended to attract will need access to high speed fiber. In order to prepare WID for future development activities, Economic Development would like to install Dublink Fiber along Shier Rings Road and Cosgray Road, and up to the City-owned site at 6777 Crosby Court. This would be accomplished by purchasing 12,500 linear feet of existing underground 1.25" ID conduit previously installed by Team Fishel/Columbus FiberNet, installing 144 count fiber within the conduit, and connecting the new fiber into the existing Dublink network.

This project will make WID more attractive to innovative businesses, and will allow for future physical assets to tie into Dublink with lateral connections. In addition, extending the Dublink network would bring Dublink close to existing residential developments and future annexation opportunities. Moreover, extending Dublink would signal Dublin's commitment to continuing to move forward with implementing the goals of the WID and supporting Council's Most Connected Community goal.

This forward-thinking deployment is consistent with the deployment of other such conduit systems throughout other portions of Dublin, known as dubLINK. Typically, the Fishel Company/Dublink LLC. is franchised under the City's Right of Way Management Ordinance and constructs, manages and operates a multi-conduit system and charges for leases of these conduits to multiple telecom/internet providers at rates approved by Dublin City Council, thereby minimizing disruption to much of the City's rights of way. Additionally, the City of Dublin deploys its own fiber optic bundle throughout this conduit system. This bundle of fiber is referred to as dubLINK. In the case of the areas being addressed herein, the City chose to construct and retain ownership of its own multi-conduit infrastructure. Previously last year, Council authorized a revised lease schedule for dubLINK fiber and extension of the maintenance of dubLINK fiber by the Fishel Company/Dublink

LLC. As part of that Agreement, the City will have the Fishel Company/Dublink LLC manage the conduit and fiber optics in this specific area.

Staff has sought a quote from the Fishel Company/Dublink LLC. for the deployment and splicing of fiber optics in the City-owned conduit in this area. The total cost for deployment and splicing is \$328,615.29. Collectively, this amount exceeds bidding threshold requirements. The scope of work for this project is attached with details and associated costs. Staff is of the opinion that these prices are consistent with the market and previous work performed. The City will be able to allow access to this fiber at a significantly reduced rate in order to incent competition and capacity while minimizing construction activity and negative impacts on the infrastructure.

The costs will be covered as provided in the current capital budget.

Recommendation

Staff recommends Council pass Resolution 43-22. The justification for declaring sole source and waiving competitive bidding is as follows:

1. The Fishel Company/Columbus Fibernet/Dublink LLC built and has managed and maintained the Dublink conduit system and City-owned dubLINK fiber optic since its inception.
2. Council recently passed a revised lease structure and authorized a maintenance agreement for the same to manage and maintain the dubLINK fiber system going forward, as well as, the conduit system within the area under consideration.
3. Having Fishel Company/Columbus Fibernet/Dublink LLC construct this portion of the system is in the City's best interest because they will manage the system after the fact and insure all connection points to various laterals are properly constructed.
4. It is imperative, as in the past, that only Fishel Company/Columbus Fibernet/Dublink LLC conduct the splicing to the existing active fiber optics, which they have been and will continue to manage. This is the most sensitive part of this project.

Please contact me with any questions you may have.

RECORD OF RESOLUTIONS

GOVERNMENT FORMS & SUPPLIES 844-224-3338 FORM NO. 30045

Resolution No. 43-22

Passed _____, 20____

A RESOLUTION WAIVING COMPETITIVE BIDDING AND DECLARING SOLE SOURCE AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ACCEPT COLUMBUS FIBERNET'S PROPOSAL FOR THE PURPOSE OF FIBER INSTALLATION

WHEREAS, Section 8.04(c) of the Dublin Charter authorizes City Council, by a vote of no less than five (5) members, to waive competitive bidding requirements if Council determines that an item is available and can only be acquired from a single source or when it is in the best interest of the City to do so; and

WHEREAS, as the City of Dublin ("City") developed, the City installed a multi-conduit system called dubLINK throughout the City; and

WHEREAS, the City has historically, and continues to, contract with Fishel Company/Columbus FiberNet/Dublink LLC ("Contractors") to construct, manage and operate this system, and the Contractors then charge leases for such conduits to various telecom/internet providers at rates approved by Dublin City Council; and

WHEREAS, previously last year Council passed a revised lease structure and authorized a maintenance agreement for Contractors to manage and maintain the dubLINK fiber system, and the conduit system, in the Bridge Park Extension moving forward; and

WHEREAS, the West Innovation District is intended to be a showcase business community for forward thinking companies that desire high-tech office space; and

WHEREAS, the innovative businesses that West Innovation District is intended to attract will need access to high speed fiber; and

WHEREAS, in preparation of future development activities in the West Innovation District the purchase of this fiber build will provide a forward-thinking deployment of Dublink fiber and conduit system that supports Council's Most Connected Community goal; and

WHEREAS, it is imperative, as in the past, that only Contractors conduct the splicing to the existing active fiber optics which they have been and will continue to manage; and

WHEREAS, fiber installation by Columbus FiberNet was determined to be the sole source of this service; and

WHEREAS, Columbus FiberNet's fiber installation service best meets the requirements of the City, and it is therefore in the best interest of the City to purchase fiber installation services from Columbus FiberNet.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Dublin, State of Ohio, _____ of its elected members concurring, that:

Section 1. The waiver of competitive bidding based on sole source is granted pursuant to Section 8.04(c) of the Dublin Charter for the purchase of fiber installation services from Columbus FiberNet in the amount of \$328,615.29.

Section 2. The City Manager is hereby authorized to accept the proposal from Columbus FiberNet for the purchase of their fiber installation services.

RECORD OF RESOLUTIONS

GOVERNMENT FORMS & SUPPLIES 844-224-3338 FORM NO. 30045

Resolution No. 43-22 Passed Page 2 of 2, 20

Section 3. This Resolution shall take effect and be in force upon the earliest date permitted by law.

Passed this _____ day of _____, 2022.

Mayor – Presiding Officer

ATTEST:

Clerk of Council



August 1, 2022

Proposal from Columbus FiberNet to the City of Dublin

Columbus FiberNet is pleased to offer the City of Dublin a proposal to deliver an underground fiber optic network solution to the need for fiber expansion to the West Innovation District.

In order to complete the expansion to the area of the West Innovation District, CFN proposes the use of an existing Columbus FiberNet owned conduit system. Columbus FiberNet is a two (2) 1.25" ID conduit system extending west on Shier Rings from Avery Rd. and then heading north on Cosgray Rd. Below is a simple scope of the proposal:

- Columbus FiberNet proposes to sell approximately 12,500 linear ft of underground 1.25" ID conduit on Shier Rings Rd and Cosgray Rd.
- As part of the asset sale, CFN will engineer, permit, construct access points, and place fiber within the (1) existing conduit being sold to the City of Dublin.
- The City of Dublin commonly uses two sizes of fiber and pricing for those two solutions is shown below.

CFN is please to present a 144 fiber optic solutions for expansion:

1. Corning 144 Loose Tube SM fiber optic cable solution:
 - a. CFN proposes a sale of 12,500 LF for a total sale price of \$165,000
 - b. Construction of the fiber optic network expansion including fiber optic cable, fiber installation in the conduit, splicing, and testing is \$163,615.29
 - c. Total 144 ct Fiber solution is \$328,615.29
 - d. Annual maintenance fees include locating, ventilating and surveillance of network is \$9,500 per year

Additional information for consideration:

- ❖ **Unscheduled Maintenance** is described as when the agency governing the right of way mandates the relocation of the system.
 - Within CFN, relocation costs are shared amongst the occupants with the City's share being 50% total cost of relocation.
- ❖ **Included with installation:**
 - Fiber will be installed in the conduit with 50' of slack left at each access points.
 - 1 Butt splice is included along proposed routes
 - No Splice diagrams will be required as splicing will be strand for strand.

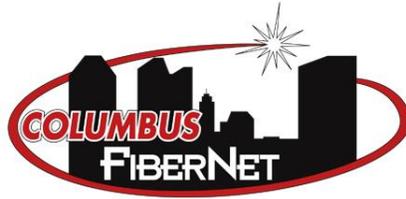


- Bi-directional testing using Optical Time Domain Reflectometer (OTDR) set to 1310nm and 1550nm with no more than 0.25 dB loss per splice will be performed to ensure splices are up to industry standard.
- 1 fiber per tube will be tested and supplied to Dublin upon completion.
- Project completion for 144 ct fiber is expected 20 weeks including a cable lead time from the acceptance of the proposal and issuance of a purchase order.
 - It is understood that the timelines provided are based on current market demand. Fiber delivery times by manufacture's are subject to change.
 - All installation work is priced at current prevailing wage rates.
 - Should prevailing wages rates change or there is a change in material price quoted, a change order may need to be issued.
 - This proposal is offered to the City of Dublin and will be valid for a period of 45 days. After 45 days, the rates and material prices will need to be reconfirmed.

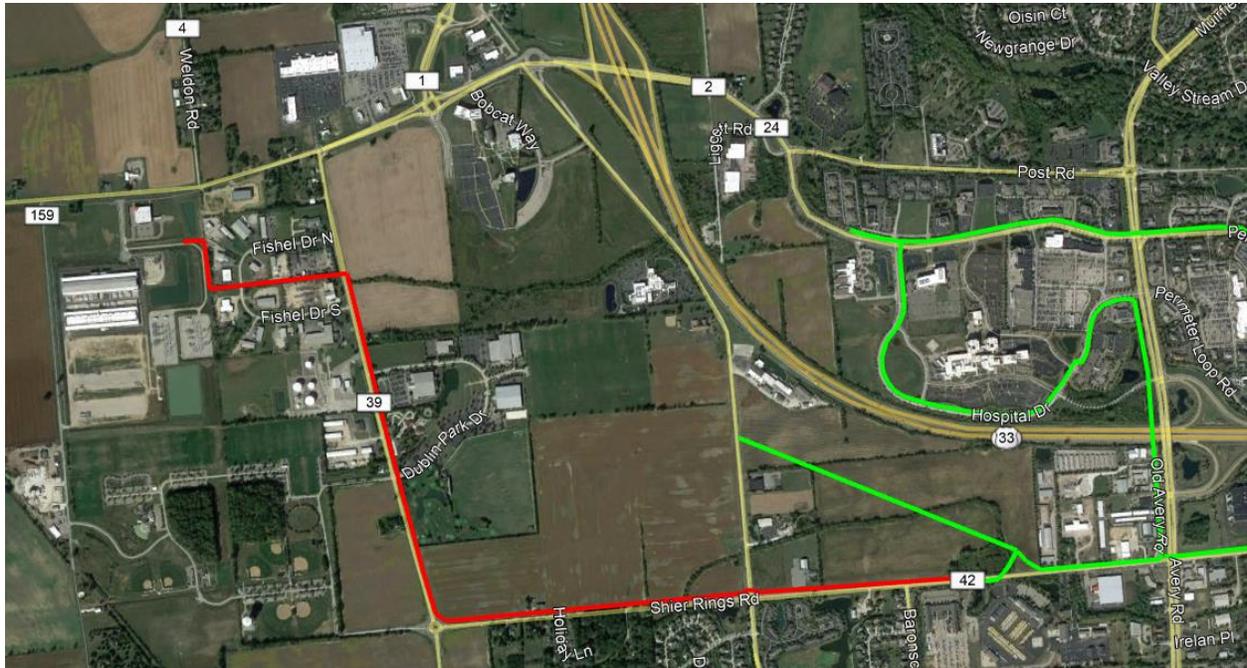
Should you have additional questions, or concerns, please reach out to me as soon as possible.

Thanks,

Matt Blackstone
Operations Manager
Columbus FiberNet



**Map of Columbus FiberNet & Dublink
Desire Route shown in Red
Existing Dublink shown in Green**



Dublink Fiber Program

Crosby Court Fiber Extension



Crosby Court Project Pathway

