

Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE December 6, 2019

TO Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

SUBJECT **Agenda Item #72, December 11, 2019 - Library Mobile Hotspots**

The subject agenda item requests authorization for a purchasing agreement for library mobile internet hotspots, as approved in the FY19-20 Annual Budget by City Council. The hotspots will be available for check out in early 2020 in the same way customers check out books or DVDs. Hotspots will allow for easy connectivity to laptops, mobile devices and do not require installation in the home. Ultimately, this service would reduce barriers of access, enhance workforce readiness, and improve residents' quality of life.

By budget amendment, the City Council supported funding to increase the pilot from 300 to 900 hotspots, which increased the pilot locations from three to ten. The pilot locations were chosen by the Library based on 2010 Census data for percentage of homes without internet access as well as proximity to Community Centers that can partner with participating neighborhood libraries: Dallas West, Martin Luther King, Jr., Highland Hills, Arcadia Park, Bachman Lake, Paul Laurence Dunbar Lancaster-Kiest, Pleasant Grove, Polk-Wisdom, Prairie Creek and Skyline Branch Libraries.

With City Council approval of the agreement, Library staff will initiate a targeted promotional effort to inform the public regarding the availability of the hotspots on January 2, 2020. Library staff will seek to collaborate with City Council Members in these respective areas to increase outreach. The program will launch in February 2020 for check-outs. Included with the hotspot will be information on employment and educational resources provided by the Dallas Public Library via the Internet.

If you have questions, please contact me or Jo Giudice, Dallas Public Library Director.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Joey Zapata".

Joey Zapata
Assistant City Manager

c: T.C. Broadnax, City Manager
Chris Caso, City Attorney (Interim)
Mark Swann, City Auditor
Biliera Johnson, City Secretary
Preston Robinson, Administrative Judge
Kimberly Bizer Tolbert, Chief of Staff to the City Manager
Majed A. Al-Ghafry, Assistant City Manager

Jon Fortune, Assistant City Manager
Nadia Chandler Hardy, Assistant City Manager and Chief Resilience Officer
Michael Mendoza, Chief of Economic Development and Neighborhood Services
M. Elizabeth Reich, Chief Financial Officer
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M. Elizabeth (Liz) Cedillo-Pereira, Chief of Equity and Inclusion
Directors and Assistant Directors