

Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE May 1, 2020

TO Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

SUBJECT **Update on CableRunner USA, LLC. Fiber Optic Pilot Program and Citywide Fiber Network**

Through a briefing memo provided on November 15, 2019 (attached for your reference), City staff announced the onset of a collaborative pilot program with CableRunner USA, LLC. (CableRunner) to utilize sections of the City's storm sewers to connect fiber optic cable between City Hall, the Canton Street Service Center, and five traffic signals between the two buildings. As utilizing storm sewers to support fiber optic communication is a methodology new to the City of Dallas, the pilot program was initiated to determine the technology's viability as an option to assist in building a City-owned, high-speed, fiber network and connect all City facilities to support smart infrastructure.

As the CableRunner fiber was installed and the traffic signals were connected in early April 2020, staff from the Department of Transportation (TRN) and Information and Technology Services (ITS) are monitoring the performance of the CableRunner fiber. While evaluating the CableRunner fiber, TRN and ITS are also working with a larger interdepartmental team, including the City Attorney's Office (CAO), Dallas Water Utilities (DWU), and Public Works (PBW), to craft a request for proposal (RFP) to build out a citywide fiber network. Staff anticipates the RFP to be out for advertisement within the next 3-6 months.

The overall vision of the fiber network includes enhancing the City of Dallas' ability to connect high-speed fiber to neighborhoods, City facilities, and other infrastructure such as traffic signals and streetlights. As CAO, TRN, and PBW have worked with small cell providers to design and start the buildout of smart streetlight poles, a City-owned fiber network would allow for the deployment of smart technologies such as cameras, environmental sensors, and even Wi-Fi.

Understanding that the development of an RFP and buildout of a citywide fiber network will be a long-term effort dependent on available funding, the City teams listed above are coordinating with all available stakeholders, the Office of Innovation, and the Office of Resilience to continue evaluating options for short-term opportunities to address the public's need for high-speed Internet service as well as the implementation of smart city initiatives.

As the teams continue working on the RFP for the citywide fiber network and short-term options for public access to high speed Internet, staff will provide the City Council with a formal update on these initiatives in early Fall of 2020.

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Should you have any questions, please let me know.



Majed A. Al-Ghafry
Assistant City Manager

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| T.C. Broadnax, City Manager | Joey Zapata, Assistant City Manager |
| Chris Caso, City Attorney | Nadia Chandler Hardy, Assistant City Manager |
| Mark Swann, City Auditor | Dr. Eric A. Johnson, Chief of Economic Development and Neighborhood Services |
| Biliera Johnson, City Secretary | M. Elizabeth Reich, Chief Financial Officer |
| Preston Robinson, Administrative Judge | Laila Aleqresh, Chief Innovation Officer |
| Kimberly Bazor Tolbert, Chief of Staff to the City Manager | M. Elizabeth (Liz) Cedillo-Pereira, Chief of Equity and Inclusion |
| Jon Fortune, Assistant City Manager | Directors and Assistant Directors |