

MEETING DATE: February 25, 2021

TO: Library Board of Trustees

FROM: KEN HOMSLY, ADULT SERVICES DIVISION MANAGER

SUBJECT: CENIC CONTRACT RENEWAL AND EQUIPMENT UPGRADE

SUMMARY

The Library is in the final stages of completing the e-rate infrastructure project for FY2020-2021. As part of this project the Library included equipment that would allow the Library to upgrade its broadband connection from 1Gbps to 10Gbps. In March, the Library will need to renew our broadband agreement with CENIC. Upgrading to a faster circuit would require a new CENIC router at the library to handle the increased bandwidth. The California State Library has a broadband grant that can help cover some of the costs of this equipment and installation.

RECOMMENDATION

1. Approve Library upgrade to 10 Gbps.
2. Direct Library to move forward with grant application to cover equipment upgrade costs.
3. Approve not to exceed funds of \$50,000 from the Foundation Restricted Funds to cover any needed costs that may arise, including the cost for purchasing the equipment needed in the eventuality that the Library does not receive the California State Library grant.

FISCAL IMPACT

Unknown.

DISCUSSION

CENIC's "Year 7" broadband RFP recently was completed and the Library needs to renew or upgrade our current circuit. A PDF copy of the winning bids for the following options is attached:

- Renewal of the existing 1 Gbps circuit (pages 1-2);
- Upgrading to a 5 Gbps circuit (pages 3-4);
- Upgrading to a 10 Gbps circuit (pages 5-6).

Note that the 5 Gbps circuit is not as cost effective as the 10 Gbps circuit. For price comparison purposes, staff has included a copy of our existing Califa Agreement, which lists the original 1 Gbps circuit costs from 2016.

Note that CENIC has a new "Circuit Deployment Fee," which will apply to the 5 & 10 Gbps quotes, but not the renewal of the existing 1 Gbps circuit. A PDF providing information regarding this fee is attached.

Note, also, that the 5 & 10 Gbps quotes include costs for equipment and installation since upgrading to a faster circuit would require a new CENIC router at the library to handle the increased bandwidth. The CA State Library has a broadband grant that can help cover some of the cost of this equipment and installation.

The deadline to renew or upgrade our current circuit is **before March 1, 2021** at which time the Library needs to inform the project team of its decision to (A) renew our existing 1 Gbps circuit, or (B) upgrade your circuit to 5 or 10 Gbps, or (C) cancel your CENIC service at the conclusion of your existing circuit's term length. Library staff suggests that the 5 Gbps circuit in option B not be considered. Library staff also suggest that option C should not be considered.

The March 1, 2021 deadline is so that CENIC can start working on the necessary reimbursement paperwork for the upcoming E-rate cycle. Indicating that the Library wishes to continue our CENIC service will not obligate us to a new 5-year Agreement at this time.

Should the Library decide to proceed with option A or B for another 5-year period based on the rates listed in the CENIC quote PDF, Califa will send the Library a new agreement for the Library Director to review and sign.

Additional information:

1. The current CENIC router will need to be replaced. The current ASR1001-X router would be replaced with a Juniper router – possibly an MX204.
2. The equipment cost of \$26,793 could be covered by a California State Library Grant, for which the Library can apply.
The Library can simultaneously apply for 1Gbps and 10Gbps in case the Library does not receive the grant. This would allow the Library to remain at 1Gbps if needed.
3. Staff believe the 5Gbps option should not be considered since it is non-standard and thus more expensive.
4. If the Library moves forward with the 10Gbps option, the annual cost (which is mostly reimbursed) should slightly decrease because the 10Gbps is dedicated ethernet instead of switched ethernet, and according to AT&T dedicated ethernet is less expensive.

Attachments:

- Califa - Fullerton Public Library Agreement 2016 – Executed
- CENIC Research & Education Network | Circuit Deployment Fee
- Fullerton Public Library Year 7 CENIC Renewal Upgrade Quote