



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
JOSEPH A. CURTATONE
MAYOR

To: Joseph Curtatone, Mayor
From: David Goodridge, CIO, City of Somerville
Date: 9/28/2020
Subject: Proposed Network Equipment Lease Agreement.

I am writing to request the Mayor's consideration and approval of a proposal that would allow the City to upgrade its Municipal network equipment through a 5- year lease agreement starting in FY21 (\$165,375.78 annually) funded through IT Computer Equipment budget line 0115552-542007.

The lease and associated equipment are all processed under Massachusetts Statewide Operational Lease Services Contract ITC70 and Massachusetts Statewide Contract for Converged Voice and Data Communications ITT50. This memorandum briefly explains our prior practice and how I would like to move forward.

Over the years, we have always upgraded our network in a piecemeal fashion. This practice was an attempt to keep support costs down. Support funding was for the most critical pieces of network infrastructure and the purchase of extra inventory of less critical (but still essential) equipment in case of less than critical failure. This results in keeping an inventory of varying models of equipment at different firmware levels and having to keep an inventory of aging equipment.

This proposed new lease agreement will allow us to bring the Municipal network to a more secure, homogenous and updated hardware model and provide support on all the devices, critical and non-critical. Based on the increase in Cybersecurity threats and vulnerabilities, we will now be able to apply critical updates to equipment to thwart and block these vulnerabilities providing for a secure environment. At the end of this lease, the option exists to purchase this equipment at fair market value or simply arrange another lease thereby upgrading to the most current and applicable equipment and return all equipment from the prior lease. This means that there would be no need for the City to inventory old, and ultimately outdated equipment.

Finally, our next step will take advantage of this new equipment by updating our fiber infrastructure thereby allowing more bandwidth throughout our network environment. This bandwidth increase would benefit the city as we prepare for an increase in cloud based services.

Please inform me of any questions or concerns.