



City of Tacoma

Resolution No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Meeting Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Contract and Award Letter  
Purchase Resolution —Exhibit "A"**

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**TO:** Board of Contracts and Awards  
**FROM:** Daniel Key, IT Department  
Brian Tetreault, Business Service Manager, IT Department  
**COPY:** City Council, City Manager, City Clerk, EIC Coordinator, LEAP Coordinator, and  
Tina Eide, Finance/Purchasing  
**SUBJECT:** Telecommunication Carrier Services  
Request for Proposals (RFP) Specification No. IT17-0315F, Contract No.  
4600013118– March 7, 2023 City Council  
**DATE:** February 10, 2023

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**RECOMMENDATION SUMMARY:**

IT Department requests approval to increase Contract 4600013118, to CenturyLink, Seattle, WA, by \$1,000,000, plus applicable taxes, budgeted from the Various General Government Funds, for telecommunication carrier services. This increase will bring the contract to a cumulative total of \$1,994,800, plus applicable taxes, for a one-year term with the option to renew for four additional one-year terms.

**STRATEGIC POLICY PRIORITY:**

- Ensure all Tacoma residents are valued and have access to resources to meet their needs.
- Encourage and promote an efficient and effective government, which is fiscally sustainable and guided by engaged residents.

**BACKGROUND:**

In 2017 the IT Department issued an RFP for telecommunication carrier services and only one submittal was received. A contract was awarded to that submitter, CenturyLink, for a five-year contract. This contract assured the IT Department was able to manage local dial tone and long-distance services from the public network to the General Government voice communication network to ensure critical City business operations and communications with residents of Tacoma were supported.

**ISSUE:** The contract that was awarded to CenturyLink in 2017 has now expired and an extension is required. The IT Department looked to other potential vendors and contracts for the services required by the City but there were no other contracts or vendors who offered the services required by the City, which is a Primary Rate Interface System (PRI Trunk). Most vendors and contracts are no longer offering this service, as the industry has primarily moved to a Session Initiation Protocol (SIP Trunk). We are currently only able to do a one-year contract because CenturyLink has only guaranteed that our PRI Trunk requirements will be available for one year. The City may be forced to move to SIP Trunks in 2024. We may be able to renew for additional one-year periods.

**ALTERNATIVES:** With the current contract expired and no other vendors offering the services needed by the City to maintain our telecommunication services, there are no other viable alternatives but to extend the contract with CenturyLink. In order to move to SIP trunks, the City would need to make a significant investment in new telecommunication equipment. With the



backlogs and shipping delays in our current environment for this type of equipment, it would likely be several months before this equipment would be available, and several more months before it could be installed, tested and operational.

**CONTRACT HISTORY:** This contract was originally awarded to CenturyLink as a result of RFP Specification No. IT17-0315F in November 2017, for an initial two-year contract term in the amount of \$397,920, plus applicable taxes. Per the terms of the contract, this contract was renewed for three additional one-year terms for a total of five years and a total contract amount of \$994,800. – Resolution 39861

**SUSTAINABILITY:** To become a more sustainable organization, CenturyLink is committed to providing services in a sustainable manner and takes measures to minimize the impacts to the environment in the delivery of services. CenturyLink has adopted the following objectives to inform and drive environmental sustainability efforts:

- Consider sustainability in the context of customer and shareholder value
- Strive to build and operate efficient networks and data centers
- Pursue sustainability initiatives that reduce energy, waste and materials consumption
- Engage employees and suppliers in sustainability efforts
- Meet applicable sustainability legal requirements, and establishes sustainability metrics to measure the results of efforts

**EQUITY IN CONTRACTING (EIC) COMPLIANCE:** Not applicable.

**LOCAL EMPLOYMENT AND APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING PROGRAM (LEAP) COMPLIANCE:** Not applicable.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

**EXPENDITURES:**

FUND NUMBER & FUND NAME *	COST OBJECT (CC/WBS/ORDER)	COST ELEMENT	TOTAL AMOUNT
Various GG Department Funds	Various	5210025	\$1,000,000
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>Up to \$1,000,000</b>

**REVENUES:**

FUNDING SOURCE	COST OBJECT (CC/WBS/ORDER)	COST ELEMENT	TOTAL AMOUNT
Various GG Department Funds	Various	5210025	\$1,000,000
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>Up to \$1,000,000</b>



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**FISCAL IMPACT TO CURRENT BIENNIAL BUDGET: \$400,000**

**ARE THE EXPENDITURES AND REVENUES PLANNED AND BUDGETED? Yes**

**IF EXPENSE IS NOT BUDGETED, PLEASE EXPLAIN HOW THEY ARE TO BE COVERED. N/A**