



Ordinance Request for Unite Private Networks, LLC Telecommunications Franchise Agreement

City of Tacoma | Media & Communications Office

Government Performance and Finance Committee

August 20, 2024

ITEM # 1



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OVERVIEW



- *Request for an Ordinance for a 10-year Telecommunications Franchise Agreement*
- *This is the second 10-year Franchise Agreement with UPN (previous 2011 Ord.# 27986) which was a Limited Area Franchise Agreement*
- *Legal, Financial, Technical aspects as a provider in our community were reviewed*
- *Negotiated terms and updated with code changes that have occurred over the last 13 years*

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OVERVIEW



- *Unite Private Networks, LLC has had infrastructure in the City for just over 13 years*
- *Due to the Auburn Case (2001) state law does not allow Franchise Fees to be paid as part of this agreement*
- *UPN is leasing this fiber to the Tacoma and Puyallup Public School Districts*

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BACKGROUND



- *Allows the provider to continue to operate within the City Right of Way for another 10 years*
- *Protects and Indemnifies the city*
- *Requires the necessary bonds, letter of credit and insurance required by Title 10 and Title 16B of the Tacoma Municipal Code*

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ISSUES



- *Approval of this Request for Ordinance would allow UPN to continue to provide Telecommunications Services in the City of Tacoma*
- *This Telecommunications Franchise Agreement would be the second for this provider*
- *The Ordinance Request keeps UPN operating within Federal, State, and Local Law operating within Municipal Code - Title 10 and Title 16B*
- *This proposed ordinance maintains/improves community conditions: Livability; Economy and Workforce; Equity and Accessibility; Sustainability*

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NEXT STEPS



- City Council Consideration – September 10, 2024 – First Reading
- 15 Day Public Comment Period
- City Council – October 1, 2024 – Final Reading
- Publication Date – October 3, 2024
- Signature Period – 30 days
- Ordinance Effective Date – November 3, 2024

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RECOMMENDATIONS



- Staff recommends the Government Performance and Finance Committee votes to forward this request for ordinance to the City Council for consideration and approval

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Unite Private Networks Franchise Agreement



Questions

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