



MEMORANDUM

TO: Satpal Singh Sidhu, County Executive
Aly Pennucci, Deputy Executive
Kayla Schott-Bresler, Deputy Executive

FROM: Perry Rice, IT Director *PJR*

RE: Fiber Optic Lease Agreement Amendment 3 for Multiple Locations

DATE: April 4, 2025

Enclosed for your consideration is the proposed Amendment 3 to the Dark Fiber Optic Lease agreement between Whatcom County and Astound Business Solutions, LLC (Astound) to increase the connectivity from the Courthouse to the 400 N. Commercial Street building and to the 110 Unity Street building.

Background and Purpose

Whatcom County currently has a consolidated 60-month lease agreement (Contract #202310024) in place with Astound for fiber optic connectivity to buildings in the following nine locations: Laurel, Mount Baker Highway, Iron Gate, Barkley, Williamson Way, Unity Street, Dupont Street, State Street and Commercial Street.

These fiber optic circuits provide the County Data Network (file services, print services, telecommunications, servers, etc.) to each building and in some cases the Facilities Network (proximity lock, security video and HVAC) and our public WiFi network.

This proposed amendment would:

- 1) Extend the existing 18-month term for three fiber optic strands to the building at 400 N. Commercial Street to be coterminous with the consolidated lease agreement. This will be occupied by County IT staff to make room for the new 3rd Floor Courtroom for Superior Court.
- 2) Add two additional fiber optic strands to the building at 110/104 Unity Street for the Facilities Network and our public WiFi network. This will prepare the building to be occupied by County employees from the Health Department to help address the space shortage.

Funding Amount and Source

The total amount of this third amendment over the remaining 38-month service term is \$75,079.49 (\$2,760.28 per month) which includes applicable taxes, fees and surcharges. Funding would be from department base budgets.

Contact Information

Please contact Perry Rice at x5235 if you have any questions or concerns regarding the terms of this amendment.