



CITY OF BOSTON • MASSACHUSETTS

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
MARTIN J. WALSH

August 20, 2018

TO THE CITY COUNCIL

Dear Councilors:

I hereby transmit for your approval an Order authorizing the City of Boston Department of Innovation and Technology (DoIT) to enter into a contract with Crown Castle Fiber, LLC for a period of up to thirty (30) years for the lease of fiber optic cable connecting 170 City buildings with the City's existing fiber optic network. The contract term of twenty years plus two five-year City renewal options requires City Council approval pursuant to section twelve (12) of chapter 30B of the General Laws. This contract is part of the City's ongoing effort to deploy and operate a city-managed fiber optic network for data, video, and voice. That network, BoNet, utilizes fiber optic cable infrastructure owned by the City's cable franchisees plus additional city-built fiber assets. Having a City-owned fiber network reduces service costs by millions of dollars per year while increasing the speed and capacity of city online services.

DoIT now seeks to enter into a contract to create "dark" fiber pathways for it to provide service between the 170 identified new city locations and the existing network of the City. In addition to the cost and service benefits associated with a city-managed fiber network, a unique federal reimbursement program for broadband services to schools and libraries presents an opportunity for quick return on this investment because the majority of buildings being added to the network are Boston Public Schools. In order to capture the benefits of leasing "dark" fiber, over which to run its own services, DoIT must enter into a long-term contract. The length of this contract approximates the anticipated life of this technology and supports the investment necessary to deploy new fiber as needed to connect the buildings to the existing network.

I urge your Honorable Body to pass this Order expeditiously so that DoIT may proceed with a project to deliver the cost and service improvements associated with the city-run network to 170 additional municipal buildings.

Sincerely,

Martin J. Walsh
Mayor of Boston

CITY OF BOSTON
IN CITY COUNCIL

AN ORDER AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF BOSTON DEPARTMENT OF INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT FOR A PERIOD OF UP TO THIRTY YEARS FOR THE CITY'S MUNICIPAL FIBER NETWORK.

ORDERED: That the City of Boston Department of Innovation and Technology (DoIT) be, and hereby is authorized, pursuant to Section twelve of Chapter 30B of the Massachusetts General Laws, to enter into a contract for a period of up to thirty years for the services of connecting 170 City buildings with dark (unlit) fiber optic cable and for an indefeasible right of use of those fibers for providing broadband service to various public schools and other public buildings.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT
THE FOREGOING, IF PASSED IN
THE ABOVE FORM, WILL BE IN
ACCORDANCE WITH LAW

BY *Eugene L. O'Flaherty* *ENC*
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CORPORATION COUNSEL