



STAFF REPORT

DATE: June 18, 2019

TO: Ronald L. Olson, City Manager

FROM: Leslie Hinkle, Executive Director of Community Development

SUBJECT: Internet Safety Policy Requirement for Federal Funding of Copper Mountain Branch Library's Network Connection

BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS:

With assistance from the Information Technology Department, the Library Services Division applied for funding from the Federal Communication Commission's (FCC) Universal Service Program for Schools and Libraries, commonly known as the "E-rate" program in early 2019. The E-rate program helps public schools and libraries provide high-speed internet service to their users. The amount of funding each entity is eligible to receive is based on the percentage of students in the school district that are eligible for the free or reduced-price lunch program. For Killeen Independent School District and Killeen's public libraries, the amount is set at 80%. The E-rate program is administered by the FCC and requires a multi-step application process. Killeen applied for funding to the CenturyLink circuit that connects the Copper Mountain Branch Library to the City's network.

This funding gives the Copper Mountain Branch Library a discount of 80% on the current network circuit fees, estimated to be \$12,844. The cost to the City with this discount would be reduced to \$2,569 annually. A requirement for a public hearing related to approving an internet safety policy for minors is required from the program. This policy simply verifies that the City IT filters the public internet access and that library staff monitor the minor computer users to help them avoid websites that are obscene, contain sexual acts or child pornography, or are otherwise harmful to minors.

THE ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED:

The City Council may choose to approve or disapprove the Internet Safety Policy.

Which alternative is recommended? Why?

Approval of the Internet Safety Policy is recommended. Doing so will save the City \$10,275 over the next twelve months and make sure that the Library Services Division can file for annual extensions in successive years.

CONFORMITY TO CITY POLICY:

The request conforms to City policy.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

What is the amount of the expenditure in the current fiscal year? For future years?

No expenditures are associated with this request now or in future years.

Is this a one-time or recurring expenditure?

N/A

Is this expenditure budgeted?

N/A

If not, where will the money come from?

N/A

Is there a sufficient amount in the budgeted line-item for this expenditure?

N/A

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the City Council approve the Internet Safety Policy.

DEPARTMENTAL CLEARANCES:

This item has been cleared by the Community Development and Legal staff.

ATTACHED SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

Policy
Children's Internet Protection Act
Funding Commitment Decision Letter