



# CITY OF BLOOMINGTON

Information & Technology Services

## Bloomington Digital Underground BDUAC Meeting Memorandum

Per Executive Orders issued by the Governor, this meeting was conducted electronically.

### **Thursday, February 3rd, 2022 4PM**

Location: Zoom  
Facilitator: Rick Dietz  
Board Attendance: Mike Allen, Marianne Chitwood, Mike Trotske  
Staff Attendance: Desiree King, Rick Dietz

### **ITS Department Updates**

- Tim Prtichett has resigned from the committee. He has accepted a position outside of MCCSC and has encouraged some of his MCCSC colleagues to apply for the vacancy. Both he and Mike Allen are Council appointed. Rick will touch base with the Council office about the vacancy.
- Currently having a Bloomington Digital Underground census performed. Before now the City has had incomplete documentation of manholes and other infrastructure. Still examining the westside and the area near Switchyard Park and Herald Times. Project is ongoing; making good headway.
- Wifi in the Parks project is ramping back up after supply chain delays
- Significant network update coming soon, supported by recently awarded ARPA funds.

### **City-wide Fiber Broadband Initiative**

We are working on a master agreement between Meridiam and the City, including a Digital Equity program. It would involve Meridiam and their potential internet service provider (ISP). Meridiam has been an engaged and collaborative partner in these discussions.

Mike T: Do we anticipate any presale?

Rick: There will probably be some marketing outreach prior to deployment.

Mike T: Will ISP be announced when master agreement finalized?

Rick: Not sure, they have multiple agreements in the works, one of them is with potential ISP. This will be up to Meridiam.

Mike T: Is there any idea of what pricing will be?

Rick: I expect it to be competitive with other providers. Curious about BDU member opinions, but Meridiam will be entering a competitive market.

Mike T: Getting questions from people, just anxious to know when we might know.

Rick: Would like to know, too, but ISP relationship is separate from our relationship with Meridiam.

Mike T: Hoping to see if there will be \$0 service for low income.

Rick: We are working to see if we can make that happen.

## **Digital Equity**

Desiree has sent final report requests to Digital Equity Grants recipients to close out 2020 grants year.

Rick is responding to the request for comments on the federal infrastructure bill. The City would like to see systems with open infrastructure allowing multiple providers to have priority access to funding. Documents are being drafted and Rick expects some feedback from the Mayor before the deadline tomorrow.

## **Member Reports (Items not on the agenda)**

Mike T: Almost all of the \$5 million committed by REDI is coming from ARPA dollars. They've hired an evaluator. For any projects Rick submitted, they should be evaluated for ARPA fund eligibility.

Rick: Has already done this. Not well defined, but thinks City can make the case. An additional several million in ARPA funds are coming down the pipe. ITS is hoping to use REDI grants for the Digital Equity Navigator position

Mike T: Moving forward with annual Combine Conference. Will probably have limited attendance on first day, and opening up attendance virtually. Hoping to feature a drone show. Also, Spoutbox sold Periodic. It outgrew the Mill and was sold to Exclaimer, an internationally-based company.

Marianne: Turning on OmniSOC services, hopefully by the end of the month. Waiting on some delayed hardware. Have moved everyone to working remotely, in light of increasing COVID cases.

Meeting adjourned

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