

To: **Mayor and City Council**
 Through: **Ryan Schroeder, City Manager**
 From: **Char Stark, Finance Director**
 Date: **May 11, 2020**

Dakota Broadband Board (DBB) Fiber Optic Agreement

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The DBB, in which the City of West St. Paul (WSP) is a member, is requesting each member’s authoritative board to adopt the attached agreement. This agreement allows the DBB to have the Indefeasible right to use the fiber system owned by WSP. This gives the DBB the ability to add fiber into the City of WSP with conduit built into our street infrastructure.

In the past, the City had been putting in conduit whenever we open up a street project for future expansion of the fiber system within the City. Our current direction is changing. The current plan is to include conduit when additional fiber is of value to the City operation (providing connectivity). An example would be putting in conduit and fiber from City Hall to the Arena or to the City’s pool. We would not add conduit into a street project where the primary usage is residential.

Our reasons for this change are as follows:

1. Added costs of putting in conduit for every future street project.
2. The City of WSP does not see a future for the City to become a provider of Internet services to non- governmental entities.
3. With the future of 5G coming into existence the City would not be able to compete with the technology in place and to keep up with the demands of new technology in the future.
4. This will allow us to build stronger partnerships with neighboring cities. These partnerships will allow us to have data stored in neighboring cities to help with CJIS and disaster recover options.

FISCAL IMPACT:

		Amount
Fund:		
Department:		
Account:		

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Approval of the Agreement between the City and the DBB with the knowledge the City will not be adding to the conduit infrastructure unless a City need is being met.