

Memorandum

Date: October 8, 2007

To: Mayor Prussing and Urbana City Council

From: Bill DeJarnette, IS Manager

RE: Fiber Connectivity

I am currently completing the RFP for extension of fiber to the Library. I have met with the county regarding the use of some existing conduit that will shorten the run dramatically and better position ourselves to support potential usage in Lincoln Square such as Public Access television. I have confirmed with the Library the optimal location to penetrate the building. I am splitting the task between the conduit run and fiber pulling to facilitate getting this in the ground before freeze. This fiber is to provide increased bandwidth to the Library for patron use and improved connectivity for staff. This fiber connection will also allow the Library to do live broadcasting through UPTV.

We are in the process of completing short term connectivity through VOLO to provide higher bandwidth to the City and the Library through ICN. These are point to point units and are used in conjunction with the County to provide some redundancy to the fiber run between the City and County.

The RFP for the fiber extension to the library will include a section requesting estimated pricing to run the fiber to two potential connection sites near Lincoln and Green for planning purposes. One is a McLeod connection and the other is a U of I connection.

The reason for this portion of the RFP is to potentially position us for a direct fiber route to ICN either through McLeod or the U of I. This more direct connection to ICN would provide more speed to the internet for the Library, City and the County and an enhanced connection to the City of Champaign when they get higher bandwidth connectivity to ICN.

If we use McLeod that would involve leasing either short term or long term bandwidth. If we connect through the U of I, the U of I would receive faster connections for University Police to the records system housed at Urbana, to the GIS Consortium information located at Brookens and to emergency dispatch at METCAD which is connected by fiber from Brookens. There is another option that includes a third party acquiring excess fiber in the ground. The situation would be similar to a McLeod lease but the hope would be a more complete managed fiber loop throughout the community which would help resolve connectivity between the cities.

Both the County and Urbana have fiber connections to their building from Insight. During prior negotiations to use the extra fiber the price of bandwidth through this fiber from Insight was cost prohibitive. Given the pending change over to Comcast these discussions will be reopened due to the fluidity of the situation.