



Legislation Text

File #: 13-0364, **Version:** 1

TITLE:

Approval of Extending the Town's Fiber Optic Infrastructure Along Smith Level Road

PURPOSE: The purpose of this item is for the Board of Aldermen to consider approving funds for the extension of the Town's fiber optic network infrastructure along Smith Level Road and to authorize the Town Manager to enter into an agreement with NCDOT and/or their contractors.

DEPARTMENT: IT

CONTACT INFORMATION: Andy Vogel, 918-7305

INFORMATION: The NCDOT is currently in the process of constructing road improvements along Smith Level Road under NCDOT project U-2803. The Town could now leverage this current construction work to have innerduct installed along the east side of Smith Level Road at a greatly reduced cost. The proposed fiber optic infrastructure extension would install conduit and access boxes along the length of the east side of Smith Level Road from the south side of Woodcrest Drive to the bridge over Morgan Creek. There would also be innerduct paths placed crossing from the East side of Smith Level Road to the West side at major intersections.

This proposed extension would install innerduct, and fiber optic capability, along a major artery of the Town of Carrboro that would typically be cost prohibitive. The additional infrastructure could potentially foster and facilitate the delivery of super-fast internet access speed and coverage to this region of Carrboro that has a very high density of Town residents. This infrastructure could also potentially be used to help serve Carrboro High School with increased bandwidth at lower costs in the future.

FISCAL & STAFF IMPACT: The Town has currently budgeted \$219,198 for the installation of additional fiber optic infrastructure as part of the NCDOT Carrboro-Chapel Hill traffic signal upgrade project. The proposed fiber optic infrastructure extension along Smith Level Road would cost \$110,000. The fiber optic installation occurring as part of the NCDOT signal upgrade project came in at \$31,000 under budget. An additional budget transfer of \$79,000 into the fiber optics project fund would bring the total from \$219,198 to \$298,198. This total would then include funding for the signal system fiber optic installation and the Smith Level Road fiber optic infrastructure installation.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends that the Board of Aldermen adopt the attached resolution.