

TO: GCS D Board of Directors

FROM: Peter Kampa, General Manager

DATE: June 14, 2022

SUBJECT: Agenda Item 7F. Consideration of Direction to District Management to Seek Proposals for a Partnership with an Internet Service Provider for a Specified Level of Broadband Internet Service at District Facilities in Exchange for Siting Communication Facilities on District Properties

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

I move to direct staff to seek proposals for a partnership with an internet service provider for a specified level of Broadband Internet Service at District facilities in exchange for siting communication facilities on District properties.

BACKGROUND:

The district is proposing to partner with an internet provider to deploy next generation internet services that will support the district assets as well as internet users in the Groveland community. The district has four tank sites, 16+ pump stations and the administrative office sites that need ultra-reliable data communications to support the operation of our services. The District has the following expectations and services that it will receive from its selected partner:

In exchange for offering the GCS D properties for no direct cash payment, the ISP will provide at their expense:

- A multi-homed, high capacity, extremely redundant, core network design with network deployment to meet district and customer requirements in terms of bandwidth, reliability, crosslinks
- Fiber connection to Communication Ring from GCS D office, providing a backup connection to GCS D
- Completed deployment of the Communication Ring and be fully functional by winter 2023
- Connection and service to a minimum of two tank sites within two years
- Internet service for free at each site where a communication tower is installed and also \$200 per month worth of service that can be applied to other GCS D sites (where the ISP does not need a tower)
- Connection to six pump sites and two remaining tanks within 4 – 5 years
- Service to remaining GCS D pump site locations on a schedule identified by ISP or as expedited by GCS D with contributions toward expenses
- The capability to operate our sites through a single VPN on provider network

- A network designed and operated for 99.97% annual uptime, including PSPS and most emergency events
- Retail consumer internet of up to 100 Mbps with 99.97% uptime reliability

Retail customers seeking internet service will greatly benefit from this arrangement. At this time, staff seeks direction and authorization from the Board to finalize a request for proposals (RFP) that will address the described service levels. The RFP will be circulated publicly and among local and regional ISP with a 30 day response timeframe. The proposals will be evaluated based on how competently and completely the responding ISP meets the required service levels outline by the District.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

No direct cost for the RFP process other than minor legal review.