



Buncombe County Board of Commissioners

Request for Board Action

Meeting Date: 09/15/2020

New Business

Department:

Budget

Presenter(s):

Jennifer Barnette, Budget

Contact(s):

Vance Bell, Information Technology

Subject:

Establish Capital Project Ordinance for Broadband projects

Brief Summary:

During the FY20 budget planning cycle, \$133,000 of funding was established in the General Fund IT operating budget to add internet connectivity at Buncombe County Sports Park and Owen Park. Information Technology staff continue to work with internet providers to explore opportunities for internet connectivity throughout the County (Buncombe Broadband Workgroup) to help those who do not currently have access to high speed internet. A request for proposals (RFP) will be issued this fall to inquire as to network providers interest/willingness in expanding their networks across the county, which will include expanding service to the parks. Staff recommends waiting until the results of the RFP have been reviewed to determine whether this project can be completed by the winning proposal or should be carried out by the IT Dept. The request is to carry forward the funding and transfer it to the capital projects fund awaiting the outcome of the RFP. The funding will be used to improve broadband access in the parks either directly through our IT Dept. or indirectly through the negotiated contract with the winning RFP response.

Recommended Motion & Requested Action:

Approve capital project ordinance

County Manager's Comments & Recommendation:

County Manager recommends as presented