File #: 1037-2023, **Version:** 1

BACKGROUND: This ordinance authorizes the Director of the Department of Public Safety, on behalf of the Division of Support Services, to enter into a new contract for maintenance with Agile Network Builders LLC to maintain the connectivity from the communication towers to the City's dispatch centers. This is a leased circuit system the City uses to tie the radio system sites and dispatch centers together to operate, and in turn, to connect them to the state where the primary radio system resides.

The radio system is used as a primary source of communications from the Department of Public Safety's dispatch center to public safety units in the field, for internal communications of public safety units, and for interoperability communications between federal, state, and other local public safety agencies. Other Departments use the radio system for similar communications with their employees in the field. The system aids the dispatchers by transmitting critical information by voice signal to radio users in the field.

Ordinance 1405-2015 authorized the second phase of the City's 800 MHz radio system upgrade to the P-25 digital system. As part of this upgrade, Agile Network Builders established the infrastructure necessary to maintain connectivity between the City's communication towers and the dispatching centers. An initial, multi-year maintenance contract was included with the upgrade and is set to expire this year.

Bid Waiver Justification: Agile Network Builders LLC. is the provider for the first of multiple required network connections to the State of Ohio MARCS system. Agile provides these services to MARCS on a state term contract which benefits the City by being on the same network, thus providing system redundancy, interoperability with MARCS and Franklin County equipment, as well as monitored network management. The original contract covered the first 5 years of maintenance. The Department of Public Safety is requesting to continue the maintenance annually per the State Term Contract pricing by entering into a new contract.

Contract Compliance:
Agile Network Builders LLC - Vendor#011487- Contract Compliance Number # 271949564

FISCAL IMPACT: Funding for this service was budgeted and is available in Division of Support Services general fund budget.
2022 $133,920.00
2021 $134,750.00

To authorize the Director of Public Safety, on behalf of the Division of Support Services, to enter into a new contract for maintenance with Agile Network Builders, LLC., for network connectivity between the City's communication towers and the dispatching centers; to waive the competitive bidding provisions of the Columbus City Code; to authorize an expenditure of $142,440.00 from Public Safety's General Fund. ($142,440.00).

WHEREAS, the Department of Public Safety, Division of Support Services, is responsible for the 800 MHz radio communications systems; and,

WHEREAS, the Division of Support Services has a need to enter into a new contract with Agile Network Builders LLC. for network connectivity maintenance service of the 800 MHz Radio Infrastructure; and,

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the City to waive the competitive bidding provisions of City Code Chapter 329

and use the State Term Contract pricing with Agile Network Builders, LLC. in order to receive the best possible pricing; and,

WHEREAS, it has become necessary in the usual daily operations of the Department of Public Safety, Division of Support Services, to authorize the Director to enter into contract to ensure the continued operation and maintenance of the City's 800 MHz Radio System infrastructure; **NOW, THEREFORE:**

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBUS:

SECTION 1. That the Director of Public Safety be, and is hereby, authorized to enter into a new contract with Agile Network Builders LLC for the maintenance of network connectivity on the 800 MHz Radio Infrastructure System in the amount of $142,440.00.

SECTION 2. That the expenditure of $142,440.00, or so much thereof as may be necessary in regard to the action authorized in SECTION 1, be and is hereby authorized per the accounting codes in the attachment to this ordinance.

SECTION 3. That the funds necessary to carry out the purpose of this ordinance are hereby deemed appropriated, and the City Auditor shall establish such accounting codes as necessary

SECTION 4. That the City Auditor is authorized to make any accounting changes to revise the funding source for all contracts or contract modifications associated with this ordinance.

SECTION 5. That this Council finds it to be in the best interests of the City to waive the relevant provisions of Chapter 329 of City Code relating to Competitive bidding for this purchase.

SECTION 6. That this ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.