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Briefing on Next Generation Network/Fiber Infrastructure and Smart Light Pole Pilot Project

PURPOSE/BACKGROUND:

To provide an update for the Next Generation Network/Fiber Infrastructure upgrade and Smart Light Pole pilot project. In May 2019 the City of Hampton engaged with CAS Severn to provide the analysis, development of recommendations and technical support services for the Next Generation Network/Smart City design. As demand for higher bandwidth capabilities increase, it is becoming ever clearer, for local communities and businesses to prosper; affordable high-speed services must be available. Minimum broadband requirements increase every year. And, with the introduction of Smart City initiatives throughout the region, bandwidth requirements are growing at a faster rate than ever.

Discussion:

The analysis for this project is still in progress and cost estimates will be available within the next month. The initial cost for the study was funded by the city's Innovation Fund. As stated earlier, the initial cost provides the analysis, recommendations and technical support services for the development of the city's next generation network. This new infrastructure allows for the digital transformation of city services and applications. Digital applications provide opportunities and also allow for effective and efficient online services for the citizens of Hampton such as Tele-Health, etc. The Smart Light Pole project will utilize solar poles for lighting in different areas. These poles are solar powered which eliminates costs to power them. The poles have the capacity to add cameras, wi-fi, motion sensors, and can be used as charging stations. Funding is available for fiber and light poles and can be used for this project. We are currently looking at YH Thomas for this opportunity.

Impact:

This project relates to the Good Government initiative which will provide responsive, effective, and efficient programs and services consistent with city values.

Recommendation:

Approval for Light Pole Pilot

N/A