



## PROSPECT HEIGHTS DISTRICT 23 FINANCE & BUILDINGS AND SITES COMMITTEES MEMORANDUM

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**Date:** January 30, 2023

**Title:** Discussion of E-Rate Upcoming Projects, Summer 2023

**Contact:** Amy McPartlin, Assistant Superintendent for Finance & Operations

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The Technology team is currently working with our E-Rate consultant, Gerry Zeller to develop the 470 (solicitation) forms for several potential upcoming initiatives. The majority of these projects will take place over the next year and will be eligible for some level of E-Rate reimbursement. Currently prioritized projects include the following:

- **Cabling improvements between Ross and Sullivan and Sullivan and Grodsky.**
  - This is important work that will make our network cabling consistent with best practices.
  - Awaiting pricing.
- **Cabling improvements and rerunning between Sullivan and MacArthur.**
  - This will allow us to maintain a self-provisioned network. There is thought to be a compromised pipe, potentially allowing water in, that houses the current fiber run between Sullivan and MacArthur. This work will allow us to rerun the cabling without having to dig up the stretch on land between Sullivan and MacArthur.
  - Awaiting pricing.
  - *For the above two, we do have a cabling company, Low Voltage Solutions, whom we expect to submit proposals. They have been good, responsive partners when we have had cabling issues.*
- **Continued Managed Internal Broadband Services**
  - We are continuing to seek reimbursement for services through Empist for network management services and support that are also E-Rate eligible.
  - Updated Aruba Access Point equipment, licenses, and support, for five years.
    - Sentinel, out of two total proposals, had the best price, with \$39,276.73 covering needed equipment, licensing, and Foundation Care.
    - Optional \$49,950 that would cover 185 support hours.
    - Most, if not all, of this is E-Rate eligible, which means we would be reimbursed up to 50%.
- **Purchase of Aruba Clearpass, a Network filtering tool, to enhance the safety of our network.**
  - This allows our network to have a second layer of security, beyond just a password, and we can better control and monitor use of networks.
  - The 470 has been issued and we are awaiting responses to gauge the price.

- **Firewall Recommendations**
  - We are seeking firewall recommendations from Empist, seeing if we can submit a 470 in time for this spring.
  - Our current firewall contract expires in August.
  - While we are not sure how much this will be E-Rate eligible, we are working with our consultant to see what would be.
- **Updates of Uninterruptible Power Sources (UPS)**
  - We have had these for more than five years, which is relevant in the E-Rate world because they wouldn't be eligible for reimbursement if we had used E-Rate funds within the past five years to update them.
  - The UPS pieces are important switch and server backup, and provide instantaneous support in case of an outage.
  - We are projecting that this will be less than \$10,000, with up to 50% reimbursed.

We will continue to keep the Committees informed of these projects as they progress over the next few weeks.