



Apache Junction Information Technology (IT) Department

DATE: May 21, 2024

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Councilmembers

THROUGH: Bryant Powell, City Manager

FROM: Doug Wirthgen, IT Director

SUBJECT: Mears, Retroactive Approval for Critical Fiber Project

Last year, IT, PWD and WUCFD staff identified a critical need to connect new internet conduit and fiber between WUCFD's new treatment plant on Ironwood Drive with the city's public works yard and animal control buildings along Baseline Avenue. The existing internet access was susceptible to permanent interrupted service and needed an immediate and sustainable upgrade. Consequently, Mears Incorporated (Mears Broadband) was engaged to complete the infrastructure work on May 4, 2023 at a cost of \$327,572 and was completed on or about July 13, 2023. The cost will be paid for using available American Rescue Plan Act (2021) ("ARPA") funding.

Staff recommends retroactive approval.