

February 27, 2020

20-100

AUTHORIZATION FOR PHASE 3 PROCUREMENT  
OF ACTIVE ELECTRONICS NETWORK SWITCHES

PREPARED BY: John MacLean, Finance and Procurement Manager,  
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FINANCIAL  
RESPONSIBILITY: Linda Degman, Director, Planning and Capital Construction

APPROVED BY: Michael Northover, Chief Information Officer  
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REPORT: The 2017 Bond Program includes an initiative for Information Technology (IT) upgrades. One of the projects is to upgrade significant existing network infrastructure. The plan includes multiple phases. The first was the replacement of two core Juniper network switches at Sylvania in June 2018 (BA 18-109). The second phase replaced the legacy second enterprise core at Cascade, and pre-staged campuses and data center cores in preparation for additional network equipment replacement by expanding our network monitoring equipment (BA 19-044).

The third phase of the Active Electronics Project will upgrade the existing network switches located in 110 telecommunication rooms throughout the college. Our current network switches are 8 to 10 years old. New network switches will increase bandwidth, provide greater network reliability, and improve infrastructure for wireless and cloud services.

On January 17, 2020 the Invitation To Bid (ITB) was advertised in the Daily Journal of Commerce, State of Oregon (ORPIN), and the Portland Observer. In addition P&CC staff notified all identified COBID firms who may have the capacity to provide the equipment requested.

Twenty-six (26) firms expressed interest through ORPIN of which four (4) were COBID registered.

At Bid closing on February 5, 2020 bids were received from

seven (7) vendors of which one (1) was Oregon COBID registered.

P&CC staff recommend that the contract should be awarded to Tech Heads, Inc. who was the lowest responsible bidder at \$6,099,435. Tech Heads, Inc. is not a COBID registered firm.

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the Board of Directors approve the Phase 3 purchase of network switches from Tech Heads Inc. for a total of \$6,709,379 including 10% contingency. Funding will come from the 2017 Bond.