

**Date:** 2023-06-05

**Subject:** **Request to Begin Procurement – Cisco Hardware, Software, Maintenance & Professional Services**

**Contact:** Austin Sagala, Manager – Network and Telecom Services, Digital Innovation and Information Technology

**Report Number:** Corporate Support Services-2023-229

**Recommendations:**

1. THAT the report from Austin Sagala, Manager, Network and Telecom Services, Digital Innovation and Information Technology to the Committee of Council meeting of June 21, 2023 re: **Request to Begin Procurement – Cisco Hardware, Software, Maintenance and Professional Services for a Two (2) Year Period** be received; and
2. That the Purchasing Agent be authorized to commence procurement of Cisco Hardware, Software, Maintenance & Professional Services for a Two (2) Year Period by leveraging the existing Ontario Education Collaborative Marketplace (OECM) Networking Products and Related Services (RFP #2019-340) contract.

**Overview:**

- The purpose of this report is to obtain authorization to begin procurement for Cisco Hardware, Software, Maintenance and Professional Services for a Two (2) Year period.
- The City's network environment is a critical component to all data and voice communications. Cisco equipment enables the City's network and securely hosts connectivity to data centre infrastructure.
- The City's current contract for these requirements expires July 11, 2023.
- The recommendation is to leverage the existing OECM procurement (Networking Products and Related Services RFP #2019-340) procurement and

establish a new contract with Onx Enterprise Solutions Ltd. for the required products and services.

**Background:**

In 2017, the City awarded a contract to Onx Enterprise Solutions Ltd. for the Supply of Cisco Hardware, Software, SMARTNET Annual Maintenance & Professional Services (RFP 2017-071) via public procurement. The current standing agreement with Onx Enterprise Solutions Ltd. concludes on July 11, 2023.

OECM conducted a public procurement in 2019, which resulted in a new contract being awarded to Onx Enterprise Solutions Ltd. for Cisco hardware, software, and support in 2020. As part of the OECM's contract, all provincial agencies, including the Ontario Broader Public Sector can leverage their pre-established pricing.

Digital Innovation & Information Technology (DI&IT) is seeking authorization to establish a new contract with Onx Enterprise Solutions Ltd. to acquire Cisco Hardware, Software, Support and services through the OECM Networking Products and Related Services RFP #2019-340 procurement.

The City of Brampton has standardized on Cisco Systems equipment for its corporate data requirements. This has allowed IT staff to design a durable and reliable data network and computing environment. This standardized approach has allowed the City to benefit from a reduction in the total cost of ownership by building a data network that is scalable and easy to manage, faster to repair, troubleshoot and configure.

In recent years, Digital Innovation and Information Technology has made significant investments enhancing the corporate network infrastructure. The City's network communications environment provides connectivity to staff and technology across over 30 Administration buildings, over 25 Community Centres facilities and 13 Fire stations, including 2,200+ telephones and 2,400+ desktop PCs as well as ZUM stops, traffic controllers and wireless access points. The City's network enables key business technologies such as Brampton Transit SmartBus technology, Traffic Signal monitoring and control, Point of Sale solutions, Online citizen services, etc.

**Current Situation:**

The Digital Innovation & Information Technology Division within Corporate Support Services Department continues to have a need for these requirements and is ready to begin the procurement process given the City's current contract expires on July 11, 2023.

The establishment of a new contract will ensure the ongoing support, warranty, maintenance, technical support and health of the current Cisco network environment while also providing supply, delivery, installation and technical support options for the

future equipment, upgrades, integrations, peripherals, and for provision of all other related services.

The contract is to be established for a period of two (2) years concluding on June 14, 2025.

The City has leveraged group purchasing organizations' Vendor of Record arrangements in the past. The benefits of using these Vendor of Record arrangements include the reduction of procurement time and costs, access to pre-qualified vendors and cost savings from leveraging the group's volume-based buying power.

#### Scope of the Project/Initiative:

The outcome of this procurement will provide the City with a Vendor of Record for Cisco Hardware, Software, Maintenance and Professional Services. This will ensure the City has access to the required technology and services at the best prices available to us.

The scope of work for a new contract includes but is not limited to the Supply of Cisco hardware, software, maintenance/support, and professional services encompassing the following technologies:

- Firewalls
- Switches
- Routers
- Unified Computing System (UCS) infrastructure components
- Webex services

As a result the City is seeking a two (2) year contract with an estimated expenditure of \$5.6 million over the term. The actual amounts will vary based upon equipment life cycle replacements, the timing of new buildings coming online and the construction renovation work plan as budgeted each year. The total will not exceed the estimate.

#### **Corporate Implications:**

##### Financial Implications:

This procurement will be funded from various cost centres throughout the City. The Goods and Services Inventory account 720000.001 will be used for the purpose of the procurement, and as services are rendered, expenses will be charged to the respective cost centres. Staff will monitor and ensure that sufficient funding is in place until the end of the contract, pending Council approval to begin procurement.

##### Purchasing Implications

Purchase approval to establish a Contract shall be obtained in accordance with the Purchasing By-law.

**Term of Council Priorities:**

This report aligns with 2022-2026 Term of Council Priority of Government and Leadership:

This technology specifically supports the following objectives:

- Demonstrates value for money and practicing effective and responsible management of municipal assets and services.
- Continuous improvement for operational workflow automation eliminating manual work.

**Conclusion:**

This report summarizes the scope of the project, identifies funding, and provides a tentative schedule with procurement methodology to acquire Cisco Hardware, Software, Maintenance and Professional Services. It is recommended that Council authorize the purchasing Agent to commence procurement as described in this report.

Authored by:

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Austin Sagala, Manger – Network and Telecom Services, Corporate Support Services, DI&IT

Approved by:

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Alex Milojevic, Commissioner, Corporate Support Services

Reviewed by:

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Douglas Elsmore, Acting Chief Information, Digital Innovation & IT, Corporate Support Services

Approved by:

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Marlon Kallideen, Chief Administrative Officer