



CHARLOTTESM

**City Council
Follow-Up Report**

July 3, 2013

June 24, 2013 – City Council Business Meeting

Wireless Broadband Network Related Services

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During the Council meeting, City Council requested information concerning Agenda Item #9, Wireless Broadband Network Related Services, on the June 24th business agenda. Council asked whether the services provided for the City's Long Term Evolution (LTE) Wireless Broadband Network Project were an extension or a contract.

City Council originally approved the competitively solicited contact with Tech USA for Program Management services associated with the Broadband Technologies Opportunity Program (BTOP) grant in September 2011. The contract was approved for \$250,000 to cover Program Management services from October 2011 through July 2013 (22 months).

The suspension of BTOP equipment funding in May 2012 by the National Telecommunications and Information Agency (federal grant manager) and subsequent extension of the program until September 2015 (an additional 26 months), requires the City to retain Program Management services through September 2015. Because the specialized knowledge of the City's broadband program and implementation strategy developed by the current Program Manager is critical to the success of the City's program, the City believes it is in its best interests to extend the existing contract with Tech USA.