REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA
Thursday, March 7, 2019

Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Committee Agenda March 7, 2019 Supplemental

To:	Chair Thiessen and Board of Directors
From:	John Illes, Chief Financial Officer
Date:	March 6, 2019
Re:	Request for Feedback Broadband Study

Attached to this memo is the draft table of contents for the Regional District's next step in its broadband strategy. TANEx Engineering Corporation was contracted to clarify and detail the ideas, further develop the strategy, and prepare further costs analysis from the Broadband Strategy – "Better Broadband for the RDBN" presented to the board from Sandbox Systems on November 29, 2018.

At this time staff is seeking the Directors' feedback on what they wish to see covered in this study.

The financial department will roll up all feedback from both staff and Directors on Tuesday March 12th to provide additional direction to TANEx.

I would be pleased to answer any questions.

Recommendation: (All/Directors/Majority)

"That the Committee receive the Chief Financial Officer's memo dated March 6, 2019 titled 'Request for Feedback Broadband Study" and

Direction

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Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako Broadband Study

Date: March 4, 2019

Submitted By:

TANEx Engineering Corporation
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Contents

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1 Executive Summary

2 Background

This section provides background material so that parties that may review this report can understand the decisions and process that have been completed to date.

2.1 Background

Provides an overview and summary of the work performed to date to provide an understanding of how we got to the current state.

2.2 Intended Audience

Provides a target audience for the report.

2.3 Purpose of Document

Provides an understanding of what this report is intended to accomplish and the intended output of the document.

2.4 Methodology Review

Provides a review of the proposed methodology in the proposal and description of Part 1 to Part 2. The goal is to get RDBN information to allow them to make decisions about what they should budget and build.

2.5 Project Stakeholders

Provides an understanding of who in the RDBN is a stakeholder in the project.

2.6 Definitions and Acronyms

3 Service Delivery Concept – Technical

This section is intended to provide an overview of how a fibre network is constructed and the components involved. It is intended to provide a base understanding of the technical components so that the RDBN can be educated in the terminology, construction, operational and business decisions that it will be required to make.

3.1 Service Delivery Alternatives

Each of the service delivery alternatives will be described on a general level from the simplest solution requiring heavy involvement of third party partners (ie. service providers) through to an independent service where RDBN provides service with no dependency on third parties. It is important to understand each model so the RDBN can manage the business risks with third parties outside of their control. The pros, cons and general considerations will be discussed with each option.

3.1.1 Dark Fibre Solutions

Provides an understanding of the various dark fibre options and considerations for:
- Backbone only
- Backbone with POP Infrastructure
- Backbone and Fibre to the Premises
- Backbone and Fibre to the Premises with POP Infrastructure

3.1.2 Managed Services

Provides an understanding of the various managed service options and considerations for:
- Backbone only
- Backbone with POP Infrastructure
- Backbone and Fibre to the Premises
- Backbone and Fibre to the Premises with POP Infrastructure

3.1.3 External RDBN Connectivity

Provides an understanding of the requirements for the RDBN to provide full connectivity for the network.

4 Service Delivery for RDBN

This section is intended to provide an overview of how the service delivery concepts described earlier relate to the specific needs of the RDBN and how they would be applied in that environment. The intent is to illustrate the various decisions that the RDBN will need to consider for its specific situation.

4.1 Service Delivery Alternatives

Each of the service delivery alternatives outlined will be applied to the specific geography of the RDBN so that the decisions required can be understood.

4.1.1 Dark Fibre Solutions

Provides an understanding of dark fibre options & considerations for the RDBN.

4.1.2 Managed Services

Provides an understanding of managed service options & considerations for the RDBN.

4.1.3 External RDBN Connectivity

Provides an understanding of external connectivity options & considerations for the RDBN.

5 Business and Operational Considerations

Provides a basic understanding of the business and operational considerations that the RDBN will be faced with as it proceeds with the implementation of the broadband strategy. The intent is to outline the main decisions that will need to be made in order to form the basis of the network requirements that will be used to complete the detailed design for the network.

Items to be consider may include, but are not limited to:
- Feasibility
- Certainty and Control
- Revenue Sharing Models
- Risks and Mitigation Strategies
- Funding Availability
- Partnerships & Availability
- Anchor Tenants
- Agreements
- Services and Pricing
- Management and Operations

6 Strategy & Methodology

The intent of this section is to provide an overview of the strategy and methodology for the completion of the broadband network and the order in which decisions and actions must be completed. It can form the basis of a project plan with a projected order of completion and approximate timelines.

Items to be consider may include, but are not limited to:
- Order of Operations
- Decisions regarding scope
- Public engagement
- Considerations that drive the project
- Partnerships
- Grant Applications & Funding Opportunities
  - What are the potential funding sources?
  - What information is required to apply?
  - What are you required to do if you are awarded funds? (ie are you in a position to do it yet)
- Business Plan
- Assessment of Market and Existing Services
- Decision making and creating a plan
- Scope of Work
- Types of skills and contractors required and potential partners

7 Next Steps

Provide an understanding of the recommended next steps to be completed in the construction of the broadband network.

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8 Appendices

Board - Receive

Cheryl Anderson

Ms. Cheryl Anderson
Manager of Administrative Services
Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako
Email: cheryl.anderson@rdbn.bc.ca

Dear Ms. Anderson:

Thank you for your email of November 2, 2018, regarding Road Rescue Bylaws.

We fully appreciate the concerns that you, and others, have raised regarding the challenges of not only providing road rescue services in your area, but also with how the funding and reimbursement policy for road rescue is applied. While I can appreciate that the RDBN feels that task numbers should issue regardless of the existence of a local bylaw, we need to consider the wider impact and consequences of Regional Districts repealing bylaws in order to take advantage of current policy.

This issue has come up in other jurisdictions and we are looking to work with the BC Fire Chiefs' Association to develop a sustainable funding model for road rescue. In the interim, if you have questions regarding this issue, please contact Assistant Deputy Fire Commissioner Gord Sharpe by email at: Gord.Sharpe@gov.bc.ca or by telephone at: 250 886-5843.

I thank you for your support and interest in a long term sustainable funding for Road Rescue. We continue to make progress towards this goal and will keep you advised as developments occur.

Thank you again for taking the time to write.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Rice
Parliamentary Secretary for Emergency Management

November 2, 2018

Jennifer Rice, M.L.A.
Parliamentary Secretary, Emergency Preparedness
Room 166-C, East Annex
Parliament Buildings
Victoria, B.C.
V8V 1X4

Dear Ms. Rice,

On behalf of the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako (RDBN), I would like to thank you for meeting with us at the Union of B.C. Municipalities Convention in Whistler in September.

We appreciated the opportunity to express our concerns in regard to road rescue bylaws and the challenges the RDBN is facing as a result of EMBC not issuing task number to reimburse fire departments for road rescue services in areas covered by any type of road rescue service supported by local government bylaw. The bylaws and background information have been forwarded to you and your staff for further consideration.

We also discussed the need for long term sustainable funding for Search and Rescue. We were pleased to hear that the province is working toward achieving this.

We addressed the 2018 wildfire event and thank you for your offer to schedule a debrief. We look forward to coordinating this meeting.

We thank for your time and attention to our concerns. We look forward to collaborating with you and your staff in regard to these topics.

Yours truly,

Bill Miller
Chair