RESOLUTION NO. 2022-326		9	
SPONSOR <u>Executive Shapiro</u>			
DATE November 7, 2022	COMMITTEE	Public Safety	

A Resolution authorizing the Executive to execute a professional service contract with the Thrasher Group, Inc. for engineering services, and a subcontract with DLZ Corporation, in the design and engineering of a fiber optic network as part of the Summit County Public Safety Fiber and Communications Network Project, in an amount not to exceed \$2,499,999.00, for the Executive, and declaring an emergency.

WHEREAS, the safety and security of the residents of the County of Summit is of paramount importance to elected officials throughout the County; and

WHEREAS, the City of Fairlawn (City) has previously established Fairlawn Gig, a high speed fiber optic network providing service in various areas of the County; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to a cooperative agreement approved by this Council under Resolution 2022-192, the County desires to invest a significant portion of the \$105 million it has received in State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds from the American Rescue Plan Act, which amended Title VI of the Social Security Act, 42 U.S.C. 801, et seq. to create Section 603 ("ARPA" and the funds received by the County being the "ARPA Funds") to be used pursuant to the ARPA and the Final Rule adopted by the Department of Treasury, for broadband infrastructure investments to address challenges with broadband access, affordability, and reliability and to address public safety needs with the County; and

WHEREAS, this council previously approved Resolution 2022-194 authorizing the Executive to execute a professional service contract with The Thrasher Group for engineering services, and a subcontract with DLZ Corporation, in the design and engineering of a fiber optic network as part of the Summit County Public Safety Fiber and Communications Network Project, in amount not to exceed \$100,000.00; and

WHEREAS, Board of Control, at its Meeting on September 14, 2022, adopted Board of Control Directive No. 272-22, which awarded a professional service contract in the design and engineering of a 150 mile fiber optic network as part of the Summit County Public Safety Fiber and Communications Network Project (the "Project") as the most qualified firm. At its meeting on October 19, 2022, the Board of Control amended this directive to include the subcontract with DLZ Corporation for \$1,136,020.00; and

WHEREAS, the County and City desire to utilize the ARPA Funds to design, construct and operate an approximately 125-130 mile high-speed fiber optic ring throughout the County (the "Fiber Ring"); and

WHEREAS, the County recognizes the critical need to support first responders by providing infrastructure to support public safety services and specifically authorizes the expenditure of such funds on fiber optic networks; and

WHEREAS, funding for the design and engineering of the fiber optic network will come from ARPA Funds received by the County; and

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WHEREAS, Requests for Proposals were sent to eight firms, with three firms responding, and the proposal of the Thrasher Group, Inc. was selected as the highest scoring technical proposal; and

WHEREAS, in order to continue work on the project, the Executive desires to enter into a supplemental contract with the Thrasher Group, Inc. for engineering services. Thereafter, Thrasher Group, Inc. will subcontract with DLZ Corporation, in the design and engineering of a fiber optic network in a total amount not to exceed \$2,499,999.00, which includes \$1,136,020.00, the amount Thrasher Group, Inc. is going to pay to DLZ Corporation, and the initial approved amount of \$100,000.00; and

WHEREAS, this Council finds and determines, after reviewing all pertinent information that the aforementioned professional service contract with the Thrasher Group, Inc. is necessary and in the best interest of the County of Summit;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the County of Summit, State of Ohio, that:

SECTION 1

The Executive is hereby authorized to execute a professional service contract in substantially the same form as set forth in Exhibit A, attached hereto and incorporated herein as if fully restated, together with any revisions thereto as are not materially adverse to the County, and any other necessary related documents with the Thrasher Group, Inc. for design and engineering services for the design of the Summit County Public Safety Fiber and Communications Network Project (the "Project") in amount not to exceed \$2,499,999.00 which includes a subcontract to DLZ in the amount of \$1,136,020.00 and the previously approved amount of \$100,000.00 contained in Resolution 2022-194.

SECTION 2

The subcontracts between Thrasher Group, Inc. and DLZ Corporation for additional work on the project are explicitly hereby authorized pursuant to Section 177.07(d) of the Codified Ordinances of the County of Summit.

SECTION 3

This Resolution is hereby declared an emergency in the interest of the health, safety and welfare of the residents of the County of Summit, and for the further reason to immediately provide for necessary design and engineering work for the design of the Project.

SECTION 4

Provided this Resolution receives the affirmative vote of eight members, it shall take effect immediately upon its adoption and approval by the Executive; otherwise, it shall take effect and be in force at the earliest time provided by law.

SECTION 5

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It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Council, and that all deliberations of this Council and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action, were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

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INTRODUCED October 24, 2022

ADOPTED November 7, 2022

APPROVED November 8, 2022

EXECUTIVE

ENACTED EFFECTIVE November 8, 2022

Voice Vote - YES: 11-0: Darrow, DeVitis, Dickinson, Donofrio, McKenney, Rodgers, Schmidt, Sims, Walters, Wiedie Higham, Wilhite