



# Finance, Budget and Administration

Jim Martin

Council Initiated:

Yes

No

**ECAF:** 2023-1382

**Motion:** 23-512

**Type:**

- Contract
- Board Appt.
- Code Amendment
- Budget Action
- Other

**Requested Handling:**

- Normal
- Expedite
- Urgent

**Fund Source:**

- General Fund
- Other
- N/A

**Executive Rec:**

- Approve
- Do Not Approve
- N/A

**Approved as to**

**Form:**

- Yes
- No
- N/A

**Subject:** Award of Broadband Digital Equity Project Funds to Sno-Isle Libraries.

**Scope:** This Program provides equipment for the Laptop and Wi-Fi Hotspot To Go program, including lap tops, hot spots, subscription service for the hot spots, and necessary software. The goal of the program is to increase access to broadband services in homes by allowing patrons to check out equipment. The program also provides funding for Digital Navigators. Digital Navigators provide one-on-one technical assistance and digital literacy services to help patrons access the internet and assist in accessing community and government services. The current program maintains 125 laptop computers and has three people waiting for every one computer. The current program also has a backlog of 130 reservations for access systems. This funding will allow the existing program to expand by adding at least 300 Hotspots, 400 laptops, tablets and other internet accessible hardware, and staffing to support this expansion.

**Duration:** Execution through June 30,2026.

**Fiscal Impact:**  Current Year  Multi-Year  N/A

Expenditures	Current Year	2024	2025	2026	2027	Total
130.57504506784101	\$1,500,000					\$1,500,000
						0
<b>Total's</b>	<b>\$1,500,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>\$1,500,000</b>

Revenue	Current Year	2024	2025	2026	2027	Total
						0
						0
<b>Total's</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**Authority Granted:** Authorizes the County Executive to execute the contract.

**Background:** The public's ability to access everything from the grocery store to the doctor was greatly impacted by Covid-19, thereby increasing the need for internet access.

**Requested Action:** Move to GLS on December 13<sup>th</sup> for consideration.