



# Finance, Budget and Administration

Deb Bell

Council Initiated:

Yes

No

**ECAF:** 2024-1401

**Motion:** 24-276

**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:** Agreement between Snohomish County and Ziplly Fiber Northwest, LLC for the Verlot Broadband Project.

**Scope:** The proposed contract with Ziplly Fiber Northwest, LLC is to construct a Fiber to the Premise (FttP) network, that will replace an existing low-capacity network with fiber optics capable of delivering a minimum of symmetrical 1/1 Gigabit per second. This project will provide service to one or more Community Anchor Institutions and to approximately 234 underserved addresses.

**Duration:** January 10,2024 to September 30, 2026.

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

Project is ARPA-funded.

Ziplly Fiber Northwest, LLC matching funds: \$179,929

Snohomish County IRU Fee: \$46,522

Snohomish County ARPA funds: \$1,577,835

**TOTAL Cost of Project:** **\$1,804,286**

Expenditures	2024	2025	2026	2027
130.57516505784101	\$1,624,357			
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,624,357</b>			

**Authority Granted:** Approves and authorizes the Executive to execute the agreement with Ziplly Fiber Northwest, LLC for the Verlot Broadband Project, under SCC 3.04.140.

**Background:** Snohomish County secured Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery (CLFR) grant funds under the federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). The County created the Office of Recovery & Resilience (ORR) through the budget to aid in the distribution of the ARPA funds. The County Council appropriated \$10 million of the County’s ARPA CLFR funds to expand broadband access through the county. On August 8, 2023, ORR presented [the 2023 ARPA Broadband Spending Plan](#) to Council, which demonstrated the crucial need for county-wide, reliable high-speed internet. Of the \$10 million, \$8,200,000 was recommended for funding broadband access projects throughout Snohomish County. Snohomish County submitted five project applications to the Washington State Department of Commerce, Broadband Office (WSBO). All five projects were determined to be eligible for funding by WSBO but did not receive funding. The Verlot project was selected to be funded with the appropriated funds to provide service to one or more Community Anchor Institution.

**Requested Action:** For Council to move the motion to GLS on July 10 for consideration.