



City of Rochester Hills  
AGENDA SUMMARY  
NON-FINANCIAL ITEMS

1000 Rochester Hills Dr.  
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Legislative File No: 2025-0179

**TO:** Mayor and City Council Members

**FROM:** William Fritz, P.E., DPS Director

**DATE:** April 28, 2025

**SUBJECT:** Approval of Bilateral Telecommunications METRO ACT Right-of-Way Use Permit for Open Fiber-dba Ripple Fiber

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**REQUEST:**

City Council is asked to approve a new METRO Act Telecommunications Right-of-Way Use Permit (Bilateral Form) for Open Fiber LLC-dba Ripple Fiber.

**BACKGROUND:**

Open Fiber LLC-dba Ripple Fiber, a Michigan LLC company, proposes to install underground fiber-optic lines using directional bore and trenching methods. The fiber is to be installed in conduit, and is currently proposed within approximately the southern half of the City. These fiber optic lines will be available for use by residents desiring fiber optic-based broadband connections. DPS/Engineering has reviewed the request and has no objections.

DPS recommends Council approval according to METRO Act regulations. The Metropolitan Extension Telecommunications Rights-of-Way Oversight Act ("METRO Act"), 2002 PA 48, governs the telecommunications right-of-way permitting process, and prescribes uniform fees, conditions and permit forms. Fees payable by the permittee under the METRO Act are based on linear feet. The State annually redistributes all the fees it collects to municipalities statewide in accordance with the Act 51 formula.

Open Fiber LLC-dba Ripple Fiber has submitted the required \$500.00 application fee and all accompanying documents are in approved format. The City's annual METRO Act revenue will increase by \$.05 per linear foot of installation. Considerable staff time is expected to administer this permit.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

City Council is asked to approve Open Fiber LLC- dba Ripple Fiber telecommunications right-of-way use permit, for the first 15-year term, by approving a new Telecommunications Permit (Bilateral form).

APPROVALS:	SIGNATURE	DATE
Department Review		
Department Director		
Mayor		
City Clerk		

Contract Reviewed by City Attorney ☒ Yes ☐ N/A