



City of Rochester Hills  
AGENDA SUMMARY  
NON-FINANCIAL ITEMS

1000 Rochester Hills Dr.  
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Legislative File No: 2026-0200

**TO:** Mayor and City Council Members  
**FROM:** Tracey Balint, P.E., Interim Director, Department of Public Services  
**DATE:** April 16, 2026  
**SUBJECT:** Approval of Bilateral Telecommunications METRO ACT Right-of-Way Use Permit For Gateway Fiber

**REQUEST:**

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

**BACKGROUND:**

Gateway 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 expected to be installed in the entirety 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.

Gateway Fiber LLC will be required to submit the \$500.00 application fee and all accompanying documents in approved formats. The City’s annual METRO Act revenue increases per linear foot of communications conduit installed within our Rights-of-Way.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

City Council is asked to approve the Gateway LLC 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