



## COMMISSION STAFF REPORT

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**MEETING DATE:** April 16, 2024

**ITEM TITLE, PRESENTER:** Memorandum of Understanding with UEN (Utah Education Network) and USL (Utah State Library) WiFi Funding, Nicole Perkins, Library Director

**RECOMMENDATION:** Approve

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### SUMMARY

The Utah Education Network (UEN) helps public libraries provide access to essential internet services in their communities. To increase and improve access to free, robust wireless internet for Utah communities, UEN has a funding opportunity for our San Juan County Library System which is currently connected and served by UEN to apply for funding to modernize Wi-Fi hardware, cybersecurity, supporting network infrastructure, and software. Approved projects will be funded for the hardware, infrastructure, and software required to extend and improve the library's Wi-Fi reach and access. This program is funded through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). We have gone through the application process and are now at the next step of requesting approval by the Commissioners to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with UEN to obtain funding.

This would be a reimbursement grant with reporting requirements that would be fulfilled by the Library Director as well as other requirements such as submitting proof of purchase.

TecServ has submitted an estimation of costs including labor that this grant would cover, which is attached with the MOU. If awarded the funding, TecServ would do all upfront purchasing and installation of equipment for the 5 branches with the agreement that San Juan County Library System would reimburse them.

### HISTORY/PAST ACTION

This is a new funding opportunity but similar to other grants and agreements we have had with UEN and USL, such as the Hotspot grant.

### FISCAL IMPACT

There is no requirement to match funding monetarily or in-kind and would save the Library System over \$20,000.00.