

**223032-IT – MODIFICATION NO. 2  
FIBER OPTIC INSTALLATION  
PROCUREMENT OFFICER’S DETERMINATION**

**I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

On or about May 12, 2023, BlueStar Technologies, Inc. (BlueStar) was awarded the contract for fiber optic installation, materials and services using the DOIT Cable and Wiring Materials and Services Master Contract No. 060B6400046, pursuant to COMAR 21.05.09, Intergovernmental Cooperative Purchasing. The contract requires the contractor to connect to the fiber optic cabling infrastructure of the City of Baltimore (the City). BlueStar was the only contractor under the DOIT contract that was authorized to perform work on the City fiber infrastructure.

**II. BACKGROUND**

Since award, BlueStar, through no fault of its own, has been unsuccessful in obtaining the permits needed from City and CSX to start work on the fiber on Broening Highway. The City made significant demands to the scope of this project that would significantly increase the cost. There have been ongoing negotiations with the City to try to reduce their demands, which would allow the MPA to complete the project within the current budget and awarded amount under this contract.

Additionally, with the loss of fiber from the Key Bridge collapsing, this fiber project is even more important, to increase the redundancy of MPA’s fiber connections and better protect MPA from the loss of a fiber link; therefore, it was in the best interest for the MPA to extend this contract for six months, through November 11, 2024. That extension, under Modification No. 1, allowed MPA to continue its negotiations with the City.

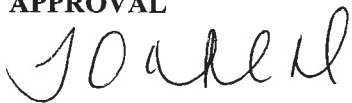
Since Modification No. 1 was executed, the City and MPA have been in negotiations with Comcast to use Comcast’s existing fiber under a future service agreement between MPA and Comcast, not yet in place. This will allow BlueStar to add fiber at both ends of the Comcast fiber to provide end-to-end fiber connectivity to designated MPA locations. If that agreement can be reached with Comcast, there will be no need for MPA to connect to the City’s fiber. The scope of the contract with BlueStar could then be modified to require connection to Comcast’s infrastructure rather than the City’s.

It is in the best interest of the MPA to extend this contract with BlueStar, subject to BlueStar’s agreement, for six months and at no additional cost to MPA, to allow additional time to continue the negotiations and to get the service agreement in place with Comcast.

**III. DETERMINATION**

- A. Modification No. 2 extends the contract by six months, from November 12, 2024 through June 30, 2025.
- B. This is a no-cost extension. The contract value remains the same.
- C. This modification is less than \$50,000; therefore, approval from the Maryland Port Commission or the Board of Public Works is not required;
- D. Except as revised by Modification No. 1 and this Modification No. 2, Contract No. 223032-IT, remains in full force and effect.

**IV. APPROVAL**



Trisha O’Neal  
Procurement Officer

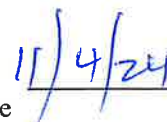


Date

APPROVED:



John Thornton  
Manager of Procurement/Designee



Date