

## Management Committee

Meeting date: February 27, 2019

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of February 27, 2019

**Subject:** Annual support renewal for CheckPoint hardware 2019

**District(s), Member(s):** All

**Policy/Legal Reference:** Council Policy 3-3 Expenditures – Procurements of Goods and Services over \$500,000

**Staff Prepared/Presented:** Theresa Nistler, Assistant Director, Information Services, 602-1504

**Division/Department:** RA Information Services

### Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute a contract with CDW 19P041 in the amount of \$1,460,000 for a contract period up to three years to provide ongoing support and maintenance services for the hardware that runs our firewall and security enterprise-wide.

### Background

Check Point is one of our primary network security vendors. We use their hardware to secure many parts of our network; including datacenters, SCADA environments, PCI processing locations and as the termination point when our employees work remotely using Council owned laptops with a VPN connection.

As a means of maintaining a stable information technology environment for the Council, Information Services (IS) engages in hardware lifecycle management which includes the execution and renewal of maintenance and support contracts.

These support contracts are critical as hardware ages and manufacturer support comes to a close. Operating core business functions on hardware without a support contract is a risk which can increase the length of time and ability to restore service if an outage occurs. Having support contracts in place mitigates the risk of lengthy down times during such occurrences because it provides us with knowledgeable high quality support 24/7/365.

### Rationale

The Council is dependent upon stable secure systems in order to conduct our daily business. The alternative is to run on unsupported equipment which could incur extended and unplanned outages. The support plan for this equipment consists of Council IS performing setup and maintenance of daily activities and engaging the manufacturers support structure when appropriate.

### Thrive Lens Analysis

The CheckPoint support services agreement is needed to address the reliability, resilience, security and cost-effectiveness of the Council's systems. This supports the Thrive outcomes of stewardship and sustainability.

### Funding

Funding for this enterprise agreement is included in the Information Services operating budget.

### Known Support / Opposition

No opposition is known at this time.