




## County of Lancaster Request for ARPA Funding

Organization Library System of Lancaster County Date 8/24/2022  
 Submitted By Mark Sandblade Authorized Signature   
 Email Address:  Phone #: 

Please attach any supporting documentation for consideration. Submission should be in PDF Format.

<b>Project/Item Description</b>	<p>The Library System of Lancaster County(LSLC) provides Wide Area Networking (WAN) services for the fifteen independent public libraries of Lancaster County. This WAN connects eighteen library locations to each other and to the Internet. LSLC has recently procured more bandwidth at lower cost. However this bandwidth exceeds the capacity of our current network firewall equipment. Our current network firewall is seven years old and will reach end of life next year.</p> <p>The current firewall system must be replaced in order to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue operation of library services.</li> <li>• Provide safe Internet access to library staff.</li> <li>• Provide safe network access to the public which directly use the library to access the Internet from our computers and from their own devices.</li> <li>• Provide Internet content filtering as we are required by the CIPA (Children’s Internet Protection Act).</li> <li>• Enhance our cybersecurity against modern threats and malware in order to protect our assets and the general public that use our network.</li> </ul>
<b>Clearly state the amount being requested. What is the total cost? How was the cost derived?</b>	<p>The estimate is based on vendor quotes and comparison against PEPPM and COSTARS contract pricing. The most competitive bid is approximately 30% lower than PEPPM pricing. The total project cost is \$34,937.56.</p> <p>LSLC is requesting \$29,028.31 to cover the cost of the hardware, security audit, and professional services needed for installation. Maintenance and warranty cost will be covered by LSLC.</p>
<b>Which County ARPA Community-wide Benefit(s) does the project meet?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Infrastructure (broadband)</li> <li>• Technology modernization</li> <li>• Safety</li> </ul>
<b>Briefly explain how the project meets the County’s guidelines.</b>	<p>A. Project provides a direct public benefit of broadband Infrastructure, Technology Modernization, and Public Safety (cybersecurity, and community resilience).</p> <p>B. This is a one-time funding request and project.</p> <p>C. This project does not require additional funding to sustain the project.</p> <p>D. This project can be completed well before 12/31/2024. We have an internal hard deadline of 5/1/2023 for project completion.</p> <p>E. LSLC does not expect ARPA funds to fully cover the cost of this project and is prepared to fund the remaining cost and unexpected ancillary costs to this project.</p> <p>F. No administrative, interest, or other fees are included in this proposal. Any unexpected fees will be paid for by LSLC funds.</p>
<b>Why should this project be a priority and how will it help the County? Also, if this application is for more than one project, please identify each one, provide information and rank them in order of your priority.</b>	<p>Our firewall protects our library catalog, servers, computers, the staff, and public patrons that use our library. Computers that the public libraries provide for free were used 34,292 times in 2021 and our free Wi-Fi network was used 52,552 times in 2022. We expect this number to drastically rise as we recover from pandemic limited library operations. Public access to the Internet is vital for local workforce readiness and development. Public high speed reliable Internet is also essential for providing universal access to students who need after school Internet access to complete their homework and studies.</p> <p>Our current firewall system reaches end of life May 2023. The platform will not be operational after this date. In addition the current firewall can only support 1 Gbps bandwidth and our newly acquired WAN bandwidth is 2 Gbps. A newer platform is needed to take advantage of our increased bandwidth.</p> <p>This project is also an opportunity to improve our cybersecurity stance by optimizing the new firewall to leverage as much protection from it as practically possible. The project’s professional services will include a cybersecurity audit to identify areas of security need, properly configure the firewalls, and train IT staff in cybersecurity best practices.</p>
<b>Will this project require ongoing expense (maintenance, updates) or frequent replacement? Are expenses already being incurred, if so, can they be reduced through this project?</b>	<p>This project will have no ongoing expenses for five years after implementation. LSLC is prepared to bear any ongoing maintenance cost for this project. All ongoing maintenance costs are sustainable and well within LSLC’s annual budget. The new firewall system is a more affordable platform than our current firewall system and will cost less to operate and maintain, which is another benefit of this project.</p>

<b>Project Timeline – start to finish, and when funding will be needed.</b>	This project must be completed before May 2023. Our goal is to prepare for the firewall migration in Q4 2022 and implement the entire project by the end of Q1 2023. This is a conservative timeline. The total project time should not exceed more than four months from start to completion.
<b>Are other organizations part of this project? If yes, please list them and their role, including funding. If not, explain why.</b>	<p>This project will require the cooperation of the fifteen independent public libraries of Lancaster County that we serve. LSLC will cover the majority of the project cost. The work will be done exclusively by LSLC staff and contractors. Participating libraries will be the beneficiaries of the project, but will not be expected to contribute financially to the project as Internet and networking services are provided to these libraries as part of LSLC’s service agreement with these libraries.</p> <p>Participating Lancaster County public libraries are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adamstown Area Library</li> <li>• Columbia Public Library</li> <li>• Eastern Lancaster County Library</li> <li>• Elizabethtown Public Library</li> <li>• Ephrata Public Library</li> <li>• Lancaster Public Library</li> <li>• Lititz Public Library</li> <li>• Manheim Community Library</li> <li>• Manheim Township Public Library</li> <li>• Milanof-Schock Library</li> <li>• Moores Memorial Library</li> <li>• Pequea Valley Public Library</li> <li>• Quarryville Library</li> <li>• Strasburg-Heisler Library</li> <li>• Shuts Environmental Library (operated by Lancaster County Department of Parks and Recreation)</li> </ul>
<b>ARPA Committee Comments</b>	
<b>ARPA Committee Recommendation</b>	
<b>Funding Amount Recommended (if recommended for approval)</b>	\$