

# WēConnect Community Data center and Fiber Network Overview



# WēConnect® – We Created...You Connect

Creating a technology commons for economic growth & social development



## Primary Purposes

- Intergovernmental shared services
- Institutional needs
- Needs of community partners
- Fill Service Gap for businesses – Economic development
- Utility Model



- Partner with other Public entities through shared services to save \$\$\$ and leverage resources
- Businesses in Westerville need
  - Affordable broadband
  - Data center services
- Establish a community asset for local development (YOUR data center)
- WēConnect® is a technology initiative concentrating on economic development
- A partnership between the city, businesses, and community partners (Chamber, Otterbein U., Westerville Schools, Library, & you)
- Public-Private Partnership model (platform)
- Designed to provide a technology commons supporting innovation, economic growth, education and social development



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# Key Data Center Features

## ■ Utility Model

- Operating costs & debt service paid through user fees

## ■ Infrastructure Approach

- Providing core information technology infrastructure (Ping, Power & Pipe)

## ■ Contract Management

- Provides for experienced operations management from private sector

## ■ Open Access

- Internet services provided through carrier-neutral hotel provides internet service provider choice

## ■ Connectivity

- Provides “last mile” solution to small and medium sized enterprises, creating value for established business centers



# Service Include...

## ■ **Broadband**

- ❑ Internet and voice provided by retail carriers
- ❑ Network Connectivity (your location to Data Center)

## ■ **Co-location**

- ❑ Cabinet space
- ❑ Cage space

## ■ **Managed Services (options)**

- ❑ Server, backup, and storage management
- ❑ Disaster Recovery

## ■ **Cloud Services**

- ❑ Hosted application services

Cloud services or cloud computing is a general term for anything that involves delivering hosted services over the Internet.



# What is the benefit?

- Control Technology Costs by making them more predictable
  - Turn unpredictable capital expenses into predictable operating expense
- Offload commodity services
  - Email, servers, storage, backup
  - Liberates your IT staff to focus on business goals
- Supports disaster recovery and business continuity objectives
- Westerville understands the public landscape of obstacles, requirements and constraints



# How is this a better service?

- Here are six (6) reasons that impact your organization in terms of cost, operational efficiency and service/process
  - ❑ Connectivity
  - ❑ Flexibility
  - ❑ Scalability
  - ❑ Affordability
  - ❑ Predictability
  - ❑ Agility
  - ❑ Security



# How is this a better service?

- Connectivity
  - Connected to other public entities as well as services and choice of service providers that let you grow and evolve at your pace
- Flexibility
  - Pay for what you need when you need it for only as long as you need it (seasonal staff, storage system & upgrades)



# How is this a better service?

- Scalability
  - Grows as your needs grow
    - Hardware, Software, Personnel.
- Affordability
  - Pay for only what is needed and removes the guess work (digitalization of the enterprise)



# How is this a better service?

## ■ Predictability

- ❑ Operating Expense versus Capital Expense
- ❑ Workforce augmentation

## ■ Agility

- ❑ For those unfunded mandates
- ❑ Changes in operations or process

## ■ Security

- ❑ Structure was purposely built to be a data center
- ❑ Independent audited SSAE SOC 2 Type II
- ❑ HIPAA and PCI
- ❑ Redundant power, environmental and staff



# Is there a cost savings?

- Depends on your current use of technology
  - For those with a mature IT environment
    - Yes or at least control costs moving forward
  - For those wanting to better leverage technology or newer technology
    - Lower upfront costs
- Provides budget and forecasting predictability
  - Move to cloud email and collaboration saved City of Westerville ~\$210,000 over first three years
  - Purchasing storage as a service turned a \$250K capital expense into a predictable, flexible, scalable & affordable operating cost



# Recap



## ■ Realization

- ❑ Data is more valuable than Gold
- ❑ Capable IT Infrastructure is a need
- ❑ To provide Exceptional Services we need
  - Connectivity + Flexibility + Scalability = Affordability

## ■ 21st Century Public Utility

- ❑ Assess your needs, identify gaps
- ❑ Develop shared services as well as public and private partnerships
- ❑ What community partners share your needs?
  - Eliminate CapEx & lower operating costs
  - Opportunity for shared services



# Questions?

