

## **Hutchinson Center, Belfast Maine Connectivity Hub – ADDENDUM 4**

The Hutchinson Center presently serves as the home to one of several University of Maine System connectivity hubs, strategically located to support internet connectivity across the state. This specific hub plays a vital role in facilitating internet access to numerous public and private educational institutions, libraries, and community centers spanning the greater Belfast, Camden, and Rockland regions. Currently situated within the Hutchinson Center in room 100Y, the hub is backed up by a generator located external to the building. Relocating this critical infrastructure entails a significant financial investment for the University of Maine System.

To ensure the continued provision of connectivity services to the greater coastal area, the University proposes the relocation of the hub from its current site within the Hutchinson Center to a purpose-built utility building. This relocation, while involving initial investment, is anticipated to be less costly for the University of Maine System compared to relocating the hub off-site.

The proposed pre-fabricated equipment shelter of concrete/fiberglass construction, measuring approximately 20 feet by 12 feet, will be situated within a fenced area approximately 45 feet by 45 feet. This relocation will grant the University uninterrupted access to the hub, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.

To facilitate this relocation, the University of Maine System seeks to establish a lease agreement or easement to house an equipment shelter adjacent to the barn located on the northeast corner of the Hutchinson Center property along with an easement that allows for access for utility trucks and University vehicles to gain access to the fenced in area. The equipment shelter will be independently connected to power, complete with its own meter, and data lines, run aurally and perhaps underground, from the main road. Furthermore, the University will install a new generator to ensure continued operation of the hub during power outages. Negotiations may include the transfer of the existing diesel generator, which has a limited runtime and was solely dedicated to supporting the connectivity hub within the building, to the new owners of the Hutchinson Center.

Until all site prep work, shelter placement and connectivity hub equipment relocation is completed, the University will need to retain 24x7x365 access to room 100Y in the Hutchinson Center and have 24x7 access to the facility to support the network.

Please see the following page with recommended possibly locations near the Hutchinson Center barn.

