

CITY OF TORRANCE INTEROFFICE COMMUNICATION

DATE: January 10, 2012

TO: Mayor and Members of City Council

FROM: Mary K. Giordano, Assistant City Manager

SUBJECT: Additional Information regarding the Council Meeting of January 10, 2012

Attached are responses to questions that have arisen regarding Council Agenda **Item 12A** on this evening's agenda.


Mary K. Giordano

/dle
cc: City Clerk
Attachment: Questions and Responses

COUNCIL ITEM 12A – City Manager and Finance

ADOPT RESOLUTION APPROVING MODIFICATIONS TO CAPITAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2011-2012

Q. What is the equipment used for, what is the funding source, and is the source restricted money? *(Council Member Numark)*

A. FEAP 196
Post Production Suite 3

The equipment recommended for this project is used for television programs for the government access channels: CitiCABLE and Torrance; along with all other video projects for internal, promotional, event, and online distribution.

When this project was originally submitted in 2002, only one post production (editing) system was recommended for replacement. However, due to the extended period of time (due to statewide budget constraints), all three systems now need replacement.

The current project is better described as a “post-production network” that allows all editing systems and desktop computers to communicate with each other as well as access a shared area network (SAN) storage system.

The post production network includes: 3 edit stations, software for 3 desktop computers, and 1 storage area network (SAN).

Edit 1 began service in 1992; Edit 2 in 1994; Edit 3 in 1995 (later upgraded in 2005 by selecting a significantly lower cost and less performance based system). Each of the editing systems have far exceeded their performance expectancy of eight years.

- Edit 1 software and hardware support is non-existent and no longer functions;
- Edit 2 has limited software and hardware support;
- Edit 3 will need to be updated to match software and hardware to operate in the new workflow using a Storage Area Network (SAN).

All three editing systems are needed to allow multiple projects to be edited concurrently when supervisors and other staff members are present. Replacing all of three systems at the same time provides for productivity and performance efficiencies. Certain hardware and furniture is being retained to minimize cost. Workflow, system use, and effectiveness is improved by the ability to share resources on a network between editing system and producers at their desktop. Currently, the editing systems are not networked. Increased storage capacity also allows staff to have immediate access to content for creation of programming. In addition, producers will gain the ability to create near edit decision list (EDL) at their desktop, which will significantly increase accuracy and efficiency by the editors.

Funding for this project comes from the Public, Educational, and Government (PEG) Access Fee; which are restricted (capital purchase only) funds as identified in the Video Franchise Ordinance.

(Michael Smith, Cable and Community Relations Manager)