

JDEdwards/PeopleSoft/Oracle Update

I have been talking about this since the middle of last year (2005 budget preparations)

- Support on our current version of financial software (JDE/PeopleSoft/Oracle) expires Feb 2007.
- Delayed implementation of upgrade from 2005 to 2006
 - Couple of reasons
 - To review other financial packages on the market and see how they compare to our existing one.
 - If we decide that we are going to stay with existing financial system - then determine if we should upgrade or stay with what we have
 - Look at alternative support possibilities
- The Vision Committee made a commitment to see what else exists in the marketplace. To see if there were systems with the same or better functionality at a better cost to the city. Knowing that the city has made a significant investment in our current system we felt we should not change just for the sake of change. The time and expense of doing change at this time would not be practical. The committee did the following:
 - Put together a list of items our current system does well
 - Put together a list of items our current system does poorly
 - Put together a listing of our needs and wants
 - Each member listed what problem they were trying to resolve
 - Sent out an RFI and received eleven (11) responses
- For scoring, the RFI's were broken down into four (4) categories: General Vendor, Functional Requirements, Technical Requirements and Cost. The recommendation after scoring and discussing the RFI's is to continue using the financial system we have. This is based on the following:
 - At this time there is no one "package" that stands above the rest when both cost and functionality are taken to account.
 - Several of the mid-range products have improved quite a bit in the last couple of years and the hope is that they will continue to improve.
 - Questions asked at professional meetings and calls made to people we know, to see what system they use, its functionality, ease of use, support and satisfaction.
- Our next task is to discuss with Oracle our options in regards to the various migration paths.
 - Determine if it is advantageous to upgrade
 - Plan accordingly – (RFP's, hardware requirements, implementation, testing and live)
- If we determine it is not in the best interests of the city to upgrade then we will look at the options mentioned above and move in that direction.
 - Evaluate various third party support options