

MIS update to AIS committee on Network Upgrade Project  
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Legislative File 2005-0403  
September 16, 2005

The network upgrade project has been reissued as three separate RFP's and bids have been received. Five vendors have been selected pending final negotiations with each of them. We are expecting to bring the project before council for approval on October 19, 2005 if contracts can be settled by then.

Original budgeted amounts in the 2005 budget and carried over from the 2004 budget amount to \$444,850. Based on the bids received and pending final negotiations we are expecting the total project cost to be \$550,000 which would include a 5% contingency. As part of the approval we are expecting to request a budget amendment of approximately \$100,000. We feel a 5% contingency is necessary in the event that something unforeseen comes up during migration and installation. The following is a basic explanation of the project.

#### Project Description

Our existing computer network is aging and is in need of replacement. It was originally designed in 2000 and was intended to have a lifespan of approximately three years. In both 2003 and 2004, we consciously pushed the project back one budget year. Now, due to the process involved with design we are entering the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2005 and most all of our equipment is nearing or is at five years of age, is out of warranty, storage is running low on the servers, and the network itself is in need of a technological redesign. The redesign and upgrade will remove our aging equipment, bring in new technology, introduce a SAN (storage area network), which will bring versatile storage abilities to the City, and allow us to continue to serve our residents. This project brings the City a more sophisticated network solution allowing a storage system that better meets the needs of all city departments. Storage can be allocated, redistributed or easily added based on future conditions. The SAN has been designed to meet our storage needs through 2008 possibly only needing more drives and maintenance. During our next expected upgrade in 2009 we would expect server replacements however the SAN itself should have a longer lifespan with potential upgrade possibilities. In addition we are upgrading our data backup capabilities, communication with remote sites, and security. We are also implementing a redundant server environment in order to protect against system failure.

This project is the result of an extensive design process. The design took into account our current and future needs for the next several years. Three RFP's were issued for the three main components of the project and the vendors below were selected based on the best value to the City.