

CITY OF LONG BEACH

C-8

DEPARTMENT OF THE CITY CLERK

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Long Beach, CA 90802

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ELECTIONS BUREAU

February 20, 2007

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
City of Long Beach
California

RECOMMENDATION:

Recommendation to authorize the City Manager to execute an agreement with the County of Los Angeles, Department of the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk, for continued on-line access to the County's Voter Information Management System (VIMS) at no cost to the City for a term of five (5) years, with three (3) one-year extension options.

DISCUSSION

On February 13, 2007, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors' approved the County Registrar/Recorder-County Clerks' recommendation to continue on-line access to the County's Voter Information Management System.

As indicated in the attached Los Angeles County staff report, submitted by Conny McCormack, Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk, the VIMS partnership has helped improve the quality of the voter and poll worker data and polling place data use by the City of Long Beach. Without VIMS well-administered City elections could not be conducted. The City Clerk Department appreciates the County Registrar/Recorder's leadership towards improving the quality of elections in the City of Long Beach.


FISCAL IMPACT

The FY 07 Budget contains appropriations to support on-line access to VIMS.

SUGGESTED ACTION:

Approve recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,


LARRY HERRERA
CITY CLERK

Attachment – February 13, 2007, Los Angeles County Staff Report (no attachments).



Conny B. McCormack
Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

REGISTRAR-RECORDER/COUNTY CLERK

12400 IMPERIAL HWY. – P.O. BOX 1024, NORWALK, CALIFORNIA 90651-1024

February 13, 2007

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**APPROVE AGREEMENTS WITH THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES AND
THE CITY OF LONG BEACH FOR CONTINUED ON-LINE ACCESS TO
COUNTY VOTER INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM
(ALL DISTRICTS - 3 VOTES)**

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

1. Approve and authorize the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk of the Department of the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk (RR/CC) to execute the attached agreements (Agreements) with the City of Los Angeles (LA City) and the City of Long Beach (LB City) for continued on-line access to the County's Voter Information Management System (VIMS) at no cost to the cities for a term of five (5) years with three (3) one-year extension options effective upon execution by the respective parties.
2. Authorize the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk, or her designee, to amend the Agreements to exercise one or more of three (3) one-year extension options, as needed.
3. Authorize the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk, or her designee, to amend the Agreements as changes become necessary provided that County Counsel approval is obtained prior to executing such amendments.
4. Authorize the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk, or her designee, to terminate either or both Agreements upon giving the other party 90 days advance notice in accordance with the provisions set forth in the Agreements.

PURPOSE/ JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION:

The purpose of the recommended action is to continue to provide LA City and LB City with on-line access to VIMS, the voter registration database which contains all information for the County's 5.5 million registered voters (4 million active and 1.5 million inactive voters). The VIMS database forms the basis for establishing and maintaining the precincting of voters, the absentee voting system, verifying petitions, and maintaining pollworkers and voting location files. VIMS is not involved in tabulation of ballots. The VIMS' client-server platform enabled partnerships with the City of Los Angeles and the City of Long Beach, which has helped to improve the quality of the voter data and pollworker and polling place data used by all jurisdictions. Thus, critical information is ready and available to conduct federal, state, local and special elections as needed.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals:

This request supports the County Strategic Plan as follows:

Goal No. 3: Organizational Effectiveness: Ensure that service delivery systems are efficient, effective, and goal-oriented. The Agreements will allow LA City and LB City continued on-line access to VIMS. The City Clerks of both of these jurisdictions, which conduct their own city elections, have reported improved election administration in their cities as a result of the ability to utilize VIMS functionality on-line.

FISCAL IMPACT/ FINANCING:

RR/CC has statutory responsibility for maintaining voter information and related services. RR/CC does not incur any additional expense as a result of providing LA City and LB City with on-line access to VIMS. Since there is no cost recovery involved and as a professional courtesy to these governmental entities, RR/CC will not charge for on-line access to VIMS. LA City and LB City are responsible for all their expenses including equipment, software needs as well as communication and data lines. These Agreements will not negatively affect the County budget.

The Agreements also provide that in the event of any needed enhancements required for optimal VIMS performance, LA City and LB City may be assessed a portion of the related cost.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS:

RR/CC is responsible for the registration of voters, maintenance of the voter files, precincting, absentee voting, petitions, and precinct officers/polls maintenance and the conduct of federal, state and special elections, local/countywide elections and may assist as needed in municipal elections. On May 19, 1998 your Board authorized an agreement to grant full on-line access to VIMS for LA City and likewise on December 16, 2003 for LB City. The cities paid County \$500,000 and \$67,114 respectively as part of the VIMS purchase and installation costs in return for on-line access to VIMS. The current agreements with the cities for online access will expire on February 9, 2007 with the expiration of the primary VIMS contract. On January 30, 2007, your Board adopted a five (5) year contract with three (3) one-year extension options with Data Information Management Systems, Inc. for continued maintenance and support services of VIMS. The proposed agreements with the cities will grant continued online VIMS access to the cities. These partnerships have worked well for all parties and have greatly improved the quality of voter data, and pollworker and polling place data used by all jurisdictions, the RR/CC seeks your Board's approval to continue the partnerships with LA City and LB City, at no cost to the cities, for five (5) years with three (3) one-year extension options.

The Chief Administrative Office has reviewed and approved this Board letter. County Counsel has reviewed and approved as to form the attached Agreements.

CONTRACTING PROCESS:

There was no contracting process associated with the recommended Agreements with the City of Los Angeles and the City of Long Beach.

The Living Wage Program (County Code Chapter 2.201) does not apply to the recommended Agreements.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS):

Approval of the recommended Agreements will ensure uninterrupted on-line access to VIMS by LA City and LB City and cultivates partnerships with the cities in improving the quality of the voter data, and pollworker and polling place data used by all jurisdictions.

Honorable Board of Supervisors
February 13, 2007
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CONCLUSION

Upon approval of the above recommendations, it is requested that the Executive Officer/Clerk of the Board, return one adopted stamped copy of the approved Board letter to:

County of Los Angeles
Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk
12400 Imperial Highway, Room 7201
Norwalk, CA 90650

Attention: Ngozi Ume
Head, Management Services

Respectfully submitted,



Conny B. McCormack
Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk

CBM:NU:hwk

Attachments (2)

c: Chief Administrative Office
County Counsel