



CITY OF MARTINEZ

**CITY COUNCIL AGENDA
November 14, 2012**

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Michael Chandler, Senior Management Analyst
Kathy DeVries, Information Systems Administrator

SUBJECT: PEG Allocations for Wi-Fi Capital Installation and A/V Equipment Upgrades

DATE: November 8, 2012

RECOMMENDATION:

Motion approving Public Education and Governmental (PEG) allocations in support of the requested wi-fi capital installation and audio-visual equipment upgrades necessary to record City Council meetings.

BACKGROUND:

The City entered into public digital initiative “wi-fi” agreement with AirCloud Communications on June 3, 2010 (“Agreement”). The Agreement included an initial Phase I buildout of the public wi-fi network, which was completed in early 2011 and involved installations on City infrastructure at a number of access points along Main Street; at the Amtrak Station; and at Martinez City Hall. The Agreement also referenced an option to expand coverage as part of a “Phase II.”

The City Council approved Phase II installations to upgrade the existing wi-fi network and add new locations at the corners of Escobar at Court, Ferry, and Castro streets; the corners of Ward at Court and Estudillo streets; the Martinez Marina; the Bocce courts and Waterfront ballfields; Rankin Aquatic Center; Rankin Park; Hidden Lakes Park; and coverage for the new sports complexes located at 330 and 360 Ferry Street via a redirected signal at the Amtrak Station.

AirCloud had hoped to site an additional RAD center repeater at another location overlooking the downtown area beyond the present configuration on top of 651 Pine Street, in order to achieve the desired 20 Mbps download speed for the network. The Thomas Hill Reservoir was considered, but determined by staff to pose challenges related to continuous power and siting of the antennas. Fortunately, the City has a pre-existing arrangement with Crown Castle under its lease with the City for use of the Mountain View Reservoir site that allows the City to site a number of antennas on the Crown Castle cell tower (but at the expense of the City). The City currently has radios on the site in support of the backup police radio network. Addition of the AirCloud equipment in support of the enhanced speed of the public wi-fi network will cost the City approximately \$7,500 in costs related to the installation of the equipment on the site, based on a quote received from a Crown Castle representative who manages installations and modifications on the tower. PEG funding is suitable for this project because it pertains to a capital expenditure in support of the public wi-fi network.

In addition to the capital expense in support of the public wi-fi network, the City has a need to upgrade equipment used to record Council meetings. Some of the equipment purchased in 2008 and used to record and broadcast City Council meetings is in need of replacement with newer and better models. This equipment is 4 years old and no longer under warranty, and includes replacing four DVD/VHS recorders with four new Sony Blu Ray/DVD recorders. These new units will need different sliding shelves in order to fit within the cabinet. Additionally, the City plans to upgrade the volume control VCA and audio meter to allow the operator to adjust the audio feed level from the recording, independent of the audio level actually heard in the Council Chambers. The estimated cost for the equipment upgrades is \$4,000. This expense is an appropriate use of PEG funds because it supports the recording and playback of government access programming through the City's website as well as the City Channel.

FISCAL IMPACT:

City funding for supporting the enhancement of the public wi-fi network is estimated to not exceed \$7,500. City funding to support the audio-visual equipment upgrades is estimated to not exceed \$4,000. Total funding for both projects combined is not to exceed \$11,500 and will come from the Public-Educational-Government (PEG) account number 3600406-5300.

ACTION:

Motion approving PEG allocations in support of the requested wi-fi capital installation and audio-visual equipment upgrades necessary to record City Council meetings.

APPROVED BY:


City Manager