



Approval of SACOG IT Server Replacement

Consent

Prepared by: Katie Brunetti

Attachments: No

Approved by: James Corless

Referring Committee: Policy & Innovation

1. Issue:

Approve the procurement of a new SACOG IT server to replace the current server and delegate authority to the executive director to select a vendor and execute a contract.

2. Recommendation:

This item is scheduled to be acted on at the Policy & Innovation Committee after this item is being mailed out. Staff recommends that the board approve the procurement of a new IT server for SACOG up to \$150,000, and delegate authority to the executive director to negotiate and execute a contract.

3. Background/Analysis:

While many IT functions are migrating to cloud-based environments, SACOG's operations still necessitate an on-premises server, primarily to support Geographic Information System (GIS) and transportation demand modeling functions. In December 2017, the board approved an emergency purchase of a new server after an unexpected failure of the hardware at that time. That server had been in use for seven years. The current industry standard usable life of a server is approximately five to six years.

SACOG contracts for IT support to assist our operations team. After reviewing the current set up and the available options, staff and SACOG's consultant are recommending replacement of the server prior to the end of its life to avoid the emergency situation that we encountered in 2017. Under SACOG's procurement rules, equipment under \$250,000 can be procured by obtaining quotes from three qualified vendors. Board approval is required for all procurements over \$100,000.

4. Discussion/Analysis:

The current server that we are operating on is approaching its end of life and end of maintenance with the current provider, Nutanix, in October 2023. The Nutanix server is a software-based solution, so the proper functioning of the server requires both hardware as well as ongoing software and support.

We are in the process of analyzing the use of our current server, including disk space and processing power needed, but our preliminary cost analysis concludes that the cost of the server replacement will not exceed \$150,000. Working with our IT consultant, we will discuss our current and future needs and receive quotes on a replacement server from at least three different vendors. The budget will include decommissioning of the old server and installation of the new server.

5. Fiscal Impact/Grant Information:

The anticipated cost of the server will not exceed \$150,000. SACOG sets aside funds for capital assets in excess of \$5,000 and there are sufficient funds in the adopted budget for this purchase. The board's approval will give the executive director authority to execute a contract with the chosen vendor not to exceed that amount.

6. This staff report aligns with the following SACOG Work Plan Objectives: