

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR JANICE HAHN

July 17, 2018

Microsoft Philanthropies Grant for County Library

LA County Library provides services to over 3.4 million people across 3,000 sq. miles and provides nearly 2,200 public facing computers and laptops at its 87 community libraries. Public computers and laptops are two of the most popular services utilized by LA County Library customers. They are used by customers to access information online, work on professional or recreational projects, conduct research, and complete homework assignments. In some communities, these public computers, along with free internet and Wi-Fi at libraries, are the only means to technology that residents have. Over the last three years, nearly 1,000,000 customers used a public computer or laptop at LA County Library community libraries.

Microsoft Philanthropies has awarded LA County Library a \$3.3 million grant beginning July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019, to upgrade its operating system from Windows 7 to Windows 10 and will also feature the Microsoft Office Suite. With the

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award, LA County Library plans to implement a systemwide software refresh ensuring LA County Library customers have access to the latest technology and productivity tools, while also ensuring up-to-date security protection, resulting in a \$1.2 million cost savings to the Department.

This project also supports LA County Library's iCount equity initiative, which tackles economic and educational inequities in our communities by increasing access to knowledge and information. The accessibility features found in Windows 10 will also eliminate barriers to customers with disabilities. These additional features result in a \$2.1 million cost avoidance to the Department.

Furthermore, the partnership with Microsoft Philanthropies will include the development of a Digital Equity program for disadvantaged youth, with a special recruitment for girls. The program will include tech classes for teens and training for librarians for long term sustainability. This partnership with Microsoft Philanthropies demonstrates LA County Library's commitment to build and strengthen public-private partnerships for the betterment of the communities we serve.

I, THEREFORE MOVE that the Board of Supervisors:

1. Accept a grant award from Microsoft Philanthropies in the total amount of \$3.3 million for a systemwide software refresh at all LA County Library locations; and
2. Authorize and delegate authority to the County Librarian, or designee, to execute a Memorandum of Understanding with Microsoft Philanthropies to develop a Digital Equity program as well as any documents, amendments or agreements related to the acceptance and use of the grant award; to expend the grant award

as necessary for the completion of the grant projects; and to meet the conditions of the grant award, upon approval as to form by County Counsel.

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