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"Trusted Partner and Provider of Choice"

October 1, 2019

To: Supervisor Janice Hahn, Chair
Supervisor Hilda Solis
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
Supervisor Sheila Kuehl
Supervisor Kathryn Barger

From: Scott Minnix
Director

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Scott Minnix".

EXTENSION REQUEST - REPORT BACK A NEW AND FREE WI-FI SERVICE, WITH OPEN ACCESS TO ALL SOCIAL MEDIA SITES FOR THE PUBLIC AT COUNTY PARKS AND A FEASIBILITY STUDY WITH A COST-BENEFIT ANALYSIS TO PROVIDE FREE PUBLIC WI-FI SERVICE AT ALL COUNTY PARKS (BOARD MOTION AUGUST 6, 2019, ITEM NO. 7)

On August 6, 2019, the Board of Supervisors (Board) adopted a motion by Supervisors Kathryn Barger and Janice Hahn directing the Director of the Internal Services Department (ISD), in collaboration with the Director of Parks and Recreation (DPR) and the County Chief Information Officer (CIO), to investigate and report on an approach to provide a new and free Wi-Fi service with open access to all social media sites for the public at County parks. In addition, the report will have a feasibility study with a cost-benefit analysis, including one-time and on-going costs, and identify funding opportunities, including external grants and partnerships.

ISD has been collaborating with DPR and the CIO, as well as with several business partners and vendors (including five major commercial telecommunications providers) to develop a holistic Wi-Fi strategy and plan that included options for leveraging public-private partnerships (PPP), as appropriate.

With input from DPR and CIO, we have considered and proposed four options that may individually, or in combination, meet DPR's Wi-Fi strategy and requirements as well as address the motion the Board directed. The options we are investigating further include: (1) expanding the existing ISD-operated Wi-Fi infrastructure to all the parks; (2) installing a new, cloud-hosted Wi-Fi network infrastructure; (3) engaging PPP that

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leverages third-party network infrastructures; and (4) implementing a hybrid solution with a mix of ISD-operated Wi-Fi and third-party solutions.

In order to thoroughly and properly create a detailed and accurate cost-benefit analysis, including one-time and ongoing costs, additional time is needed. The departments will need to determine the appropriate business and constituents needs among the 182 parks, in terms of Wi-Fi coverage and bandwidth, and establish a logical and financially feasible phased-implementation approach. A time-consuming activity in this process is the necessary field surveys of the 182 parks to determine network connectivity and infrastructure. We will determine the best method to solicit third-party vendor qualifications and capabilities. Additionally, we will seek and research funding opportunities, including external grants and possible low to no cost partnerships.

Therefore, we are requesting an extension of 120 days from the date of this letter to February 1, 2020, to allow sufficient time to accurately complete the study, and for the joint departments to provide a recommendation to the Board on the best approach to provide the new and free Wi-Fi service for the public at County parks.

If you have any questions, or require further information, please contact me at (323) 267-2101, via email: sminnix@isd.lacounty.gov, or your staff may contact Dave Wesolik, General Manager, ISD Information Technology Service at (562) 940-2901, via email: dwesolik@isd.lacounty.gov.

SM:dn

K:ITSAAdmin/BoardMotions/BoardMotionResponseWiFi

c: ISD Board Deputies
Chief Executive Officer
County Counsel
Executive Office, Board of Supervisors