

ADOPTED

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

19 March 6, 2024


JEFF LEVINSON
INTERIM EXECUTIVE OFFICER



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March 06, 2024

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:

**AUTHORIZE THE COUNTY PURCHASING AGENT TO PROCEED WITH THE ACQUISITION OF
A GAS CHROMATOGRAPHY MASS SPECTROMETRY SYSTEM, CORRESPONDING TRAINING,
AND PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH
LABORATORY
(ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS) (3 VOTES)**

SUBJECT

Authorize the Director of the Internal Services Department as the County of Los Angeles' Purchasing Agent, to proceed with the acquisition of a Gas Chromatography Mass Spectrometry system, corresponding training, and preventative maintenance for the Department of Public Health (Public Health) Laboratory.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

Authorize and instruct the Director of the Internal Services Department (ISD), as the County of Los Angeles' (County) Purchasing Agent, to proceed with the acquisition of a Gas Chromatography Mass Spectrometry (GC/MS) system for Public Health, corresponding training, and preventative maintenance in an amount estimated not to exceed \$300,000; 100 percent funded by the Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) cooperative agreement.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The Public Health Laboratory Chemical Terrorism Response Unit (PHL CTRU) is a critical component of the infrastructure of the County's Emergency Preparedness Program. A GC/MS system is needed to strengthen PHL CTRU's capability to respond timely in the event of an intentional or naturally occurring chemical emergency to detect and analyze human blood specimens

for the presence of cyanide, using Gas Chromatography Tandem Mass Spectrometry technology in accordance with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) protocols.

A GC/MS system will provide the greater high-throughput capabilities required to process and analyze the substantial number of human clinical specimens submitted for testing during a large-scale chemical exposure. Periodic upgrades of diagnostic instrumentation are necessary to ensure state of the art technology is in place and to maintain clinical laboratory testing performance levels that meet current CDC standards for chemical and toxins testing. The GC/MS system currently in use is at end of life and in the near future, the manufacturer will no longer support service or provide replacement parts for this unit.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The recommended action supports Strategy II.2.3, Prioritize Environmental Health Oversight and Monitoring, of the County's Strategic Plan.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The acquisition costs for the GC/MS system, corresponding training, and preventative maintenance are estimated not to exceed \$300,000; 100 percent funded by the PHEP cooperative agreement.

Funding is included in Public Health's fiscal year (FY) 2023-24 Adopted Budget and funding for training and preventive maintenance will be requested in future FYs, as necessary.

There are no net County costs associated with this action.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

On October 16, 2001, your Board approved the classification categories for fixed assets (now referred to as capital assets), and new requirements for major capital assets purchases requiring County departments to obtain Board approval to purchase ordinance equipment with a unit cost of \$250,000 or greater prior to submitting their requisition to the County's Purchasing Agent.

CONTRACTING PROCESS

This is a commodity purchase made under the statutory authority of the County's Purchasing Agent. The acquisition will be competitively solicited by the County's Purchasing Agent in accordance with the County's standard purchasing policies and procedures established by ISD.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

Approval of the recommended action will ensure that Public Health continues to provide state of the art analysis and detection for chemical terrorism agents from human clinical specimens associated with intentional or accidental exposure.

The Honorable Board of Supervisors

3/6/2024

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Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Barbara Ferrer". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Barbara Ferrer, PhD, MPH, MEd

Director

BF:jb

BL #07427

c: Chief Executive Office
County Counsel
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
Internal Services Department