October 14, 2025

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:

APPROVAL TO UTILIZE FUNDS FROM THE COUNTY'S INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY INFRASTRUCTURE FUND FOR THE ACQUISITION OF ONE BLUECREST AUTOMATED SIGNATURE RECOGNITION (ASR) MACHINE AND APPROVAL OF AN APPROPRIATION ADJUSTMENT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025-26 (ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS) (4 VOTES)

CIO RECOMMENDATION: APPROVE (X) APPROVE WITH MODIFICATION ()
DISAPPROVE ()

SUBJECT

The Department of Registrar Recorder/County Clerk (RR/CC) is requesting Board approval of an appropriation adjustment and authorization to utilize \$758,000 in one-time funding from the County's Information Technology Fund (ITF) for the Department to acquire one BlueCrest Automatic Signature Recognition (ASR) machine to expand the capacity to process Vote-by-Mail (VBM) ballots to 135,000 ballots per hour.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

Approve a Fiscal Year 2025-26 appropriation adjustment in the ITF to reallocate \$758,000 from Services and Supplies (S&S) to Other Financing Uses and to increase RR/CC's Capital Asset (CA) Budget to procure and implement one BlueCrest ASR machine to improve VBM ballot processing.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The RR/CC manages elections for the largest voting jurisdiction in the country. Since the implementation of the Voter Choice Act in 2018, VBM ballot volume has increased by approximately

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75%, creating significant operational demands.

Currently, the RR/CC uses eight legacy ASR machines that collectively process 16,000 ballots per hour, requiring 24 staff and over 600 hours of overtime per election, costing an additional \$20,000 per election. These machines operate on outdated software, leading to increased manual verification and slower processing times.

To address these challenges, RR/CC has installed two modern BlueCrest ASR machines capable of processing up to 90,000 ballots per hour. The proposed acquisition of a third BlueCrest ASR machine will:

- Increase processing capacity to 135,000 ballots per hour
- Eliminate operational bottlenecks and reduce overtime costs
- Improve signature verification accuracy and reduce reliance on manual review
- Future-proof operations against continued growth in VBM turnout

This investment will ensure timely and accurate election results, strengthen voter confidence, and align with the County's commitment to transparency and operational excellence.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The recommended action aligns with the Countywide Strategic Plan's North Stars, particularly North Star One: Making investments that transform lives and North Star Two: Foster vibrant and resilient communities. Investing in BlueCrest ASR machines is a transformative step toward ensuring timely, accurate, and fair vote processing, while also critically supporting vulnerable and historically underrepresented communities by strengthening democracy and protecting the integrity of election services. By enhancing operational capacity and modernizing election infrastructure, this initiative reinforces community resilience and public trust. It contributes to building strong, equitable systems that uphold civic engagement and community well-being across Los Angeles County.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The ITF, governed by the County's Information Technology Investment Board (ITIB), was established to fund Countywide or multi-departmental technology projects that improve the delivery of services to the public; generate operational improvements to one or more departments or programs; and improve interdepartmental or interagency collaboration.

The ITIB approved the use of \$758,000 in one-time funding from the County's ITF on July 31, 2025. Ongoing maintenance and service costs, estimated up to \$100,000, will be funded through the existing Election Management System contract. The purchase is expected to generate cost savings of up to \$300,000 per countywide election after the expiration of the current ASR contract.

Approval of the recommended appropriation adjustment (attached) in the ITF will reallocate \$758,000 from S&S to Other Financing Uses and will increase RR/CC's CA Budget offset with revenue in Operating Transfer In.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

There are no legal requirements or prohibitions related to this recommended action.

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IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

This project will enhance election operations by reducing processing time, minimizing human verification requirements, and ensuring timely results. These improvements will improve public confidence and safeguard the integrity of the County's election process.

CONCLUSION

Upon Board approval, please return one adopted copy of this board letter to the RR/CC.

Respectfully submitted,

DEAN C. LOGAN

Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk

Peter Loo

Chief Information Officer

DL:JJ JS:dl

Enclosures

c: Chief Executive Office Chief Information Office County Counsel Executive Office

PINK			
BA FORM 10142022			BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OFFICIAL COPY
			September 02, 2025
	COUN	TY OF LOS ANGELES	,
REQUE	ST FOR APPRO	OPRIATION ADJUSTMENT	
·		RAR-RECORDER/COUNTY CLERK	
AUDITOR-CONTROLLER:			
		THIS DEPARTMENT. PLEASE CONFIRM THE ACCOUNTING ENTIRE OFFICER FOR HER RECOMMENDATION OR ACTION.	NTRIES AND AVAILABLE
Al	DJUSTMENT REQUEST	ED AND REASONS THEREFORE	
		2025-26	
	4	- VOTES	
SOURCES		USES	
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY INFOASTRUCTURE FUND		INCORMATION TECHNIQUOCY INCOASTDUCTURE CUND	
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY INFRASTRUCTURE FUND B16-AO-2000-40033		B16-AO-6100-40033	
SERVICES & SUPPLIES		OTHER FINANCING USES	
DECREASE APPROPRIATION	758,000	INCREASE APPROPRIATION	758,000
REGISTRAR-RECORDER/COUNTY CLERK		REGISTRAR-RECORDER/COUNTY CLERK	
A01-RR-96-9911-11300		A01-RR-6030-11300	
OPERATING TRANSFERS IN		CAPITAL ASSETS - EQUIPMENT	
INCREASE REVENUE	758,000	INCREASE APPROPRIATION	758,000
SOURCES TOTAL _	\$ 1,516,000	USES TOTAL	\$ 1,516,000
UICTIFICATION			
JUSTIFICATION This adjustment reflects a shift in appropriation from	n the Information To	echnology Infrastructure Fund to Registrar-Recorder/	County Clark to acquire
a BlueCrest Vantage automatic signature recognition			county cierk to acquire
		William Leung Digitally signed by Wi	lliam Leung 54:57 -07'00'
		AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE	
BOARD OF SUPERVISOR'S APPROVAL (AS REQUESTED/REV	(ISED)		

APPROVED AS REQUESTED

APPROVED AS REVISED

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Digitally signed by Albert Navas Date: 2025.09.16 15:16:17 -07'00'

Albert Navas

DATE 9/16/25

ACTION

ВҮ

DATE

RECOMMENDATION

REFERRED TO THE CHIEF

AUDITOR-CONTROLLER

B.A. NO.

EXECUTIVE OFFICER FOR---