



**PUBLIC REQUEST TO ADDRESS  
THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA**

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

HILDA L. SOLIS  
HOLLY J. MITCHELL  
LINDSEY P. HORVATH  
JANICE HAHN  
KATHRYN BARGER

**Correspondence Received**

The following individuals submitted comments on agenda item:				
Agenda #	Relate To	Position	Name	Comments
3.		<b>Oppose</b>	Andrew P Van Vooren	
		<b>Item Total</b>	<b>1</b>	
<b>Grand Total</b>			<b>1</b>	

**Subject:** Public Comment on FY 2026-27 Budget – Micrographics and Modernization Funds

To the Honorable Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors,

I am writing to express serious concerns regarding the allocation of the \$4.4 million Micrographics Fund and the \$11.7 million Modernization Fund in the upcoming fiscal year budget.

Specifically, the proposed \$11 million contract with Kofile for third-party microfilm restoration represents a missed opportunity for the County to build long-term, sustainable infrastructure. Rather than "farming out" this critical work to a private vendor, these public funds should be reinvested internally to strengthen our own workforce.

The current strategy overlooks a more cost-effective and efficient solution: investing in the Assistant Microfilm Technician position. By prioritizing internal training and staff retention over high-priced external contracts, the County would:

- **Protect Public Funds:** Keep the \$11 million within the County economy rather than sending it to an outside corporation.
- **Modernize Properly:** Use the \$11.7 million Modernization Fund to upgrade internal equipment and software, ensuring the County owns the tools of production.
- **Leverage Existing Talent:** Our internal labor is ready and capable of performing this work immediately; we simply need the departmental support and resources to execute it.
- **Ensure Quality Control:** Maintain direct oversight of vital records restoration, which is often lost when specialized work is outsourced.

The specialized nature of microfilm preservation requires a dedicated team. Relying on temporary external contracts leads to a loss of institutional knowledge and leaves the County vulnerable to rising vendor costs in the future.

While I submit this as a concerned member of the public, my perspective is rooted in a deep understanding of the daily technical requirements and the specific operational challenges faced within this unit. I urge the Board to direct these funds toward internal staff development and equipment modernization rather than further outsourcing.

Respectfully,

Andrew Van Vooren

2/26/2026