

**CITY OF ALBANY
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA
STAFF REPORT**

Agenda Date: 6/4/2012

Reviewed by: BP

SUBJECT: Recommendations of Library Advisory Board regarding Library Bequest

REPORT BY: Judy Lieberman, Projects Director

LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD RECOMMENDATION

1. Approve \$45,000 in funding from Library Bequest to City for upgrade of Audio/Visual (AV) system in Edith Room
2. Request Council direction to allow Board to determine if there are additional library needs which may be appropriate for funding from Library Bequest.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

3. Add upgrade to community center main hall for cable-casting, including addition of remote cameras in Edith Stone room, and add to Capital Improvement Plan for 2012/13.

BACKGROUND

The City received a bequest of \$188,551 this fiscal year from the estate of Gardener and Margaret Young for the purchase of books and equipment for the Albany library. On November 21, 2011, the City Council accepted the bequest and asked the Albany Library Advisory Board for suggestions on the use of the funds, with direction for including audio/visual equipment for the Edith Stone Room, and designating a majority of the funds for allocation in the future. A purpose of the reserve was in case the analysis of potential options for Library services resulted in transitioning to an independent library or other arrangement where an initial capital investment would be required. (See Attachment 1)

DISCUSSION

The Albany Library Advisory Board, at its meeting of April 25, 2012, recommended that up a portion of these funds be used for an AV upgrade in the Edith Stone room. The recommended upgrade is for approximately \$45,000 of improvements. (Attachment 2)

The Library has already set aside a week in mid-July without summer programming to accommodate the upgrade. Since a month must be allowed to order the equipment, the project should be approved in a timely manner.

At the Library Advisory Board meeting it was noted that the upgrade does not include the installation of remote cameras. However, it does include the ability for live filming, although the cameras will still have to be handheld. The addition of remote cameras, such as exist in the Council Chambers, would be an additional cost of \$21,000. The upgrade of the remote cameras in the Edith Stone room would trigger an accompanying upgrade to the cameras in the Community Center main hall. This would cost approximately \$35,000.

In addition, the Library Advisory Board would like to investigate other equipment or material needs that the library may have, and determine if they might also be candidates for future funding from the bequest. The Board would like to make sure that this is within their purview, as they felt that the original charge from Council might have been limited to the AV requirements in the Edith Stone room. If Council agrees that further funds could be used for future projects, the Library Board will take up this issue in the fall at their next meeting. (See minutes of 5/23/2012, Attachment 3)

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT

N/A

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The Edith Stone room upgrade is estimated at \$45,000, including equipment and installation. The community center upgrade, estimated at \$35,000 could be funded from Cable TV PEG fund reserves which are specifically allocated to expenditure on equipment for Public, Educational and Government programming. The Albany Community Media Access Committee has expressed concerns about the expenditure of these funds, and did not recommend using them for this purpose. If remote cameras were desired in the Edith Stone room as well, a funding source would be needed. One possibility other than the Library bequest is the Albany Library Trust Fund.

Attachments:

1. City Council Minutes, November 21, 2011
2. KALB Upgrade Proposal for Edith Stone Room, Jeremy Allen
3. Library Minutes (draft) from May 23, 2012 meeting