

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

Agenda Date: 6/18/2012

Reviewed by: BP

SUBJECT: KALB Community Center control room upgrade 2012/13

REPORT BY: Jeremy Allen, KALB Manager

**COMMUNITY MEDIA ACCESS COMMITTEE AND STAFF
RECOMMENDATION**

Approve \$30,000 in funding from KALB PEG (Public, Educational and Government) cable channel franchise fees for upgrade of KALB control room in the Albany Community Center.

BACKGROUND

On June 4th, 2012, the City Council approved the Albany Library Advisory Board's recommendation to upgrade Edith Stone room audio/visual equipment and install cabling infrastructure for the Albany Community Center. This installation facilitates broadcast and recording of events which take place in the entire facility. The upgrade of the KALB control room is the 2nd component of the total project. Both the Library Board and the Community Media Access Committee (CMAC) made recommendations to staff to separate funding sources in order to clearly define appropriate use of bequest and PEG funds. The upgrade to KALB control room was identified by CMAC as a suitable use of 2012-13 PEG (Public, Educational and Government) funds.

DISCUSSION

PEG funds would be used to purchase a new switcher and video routing/monitoring equipment in the HD-SDI format. Currently the Community Center uses the older camera and control system left over from the first Council Chambers installation in 2005. The equipment was relocated to the Community Center in 2008 and replaced with new HD-SDI cameras at City Hall when the building was renovated in 2010.

After seven years of use, the existing camera system at the Community Center is showing signs of wear and experiencing intermittent technical problems. In addition, the format of the existing system is not compatible with current professional video standards.

This upgrade allows KALB to have a professional broadcast studio infrastructure in place at the Albany Community Center, providing capabilities to expand live or recorded programming in the Community Center EOC room, the Community and Edith Stone

rooms as well as remote broadcast. This equipment pairs with A/V upgrades to the Edith Stone room and leaves room for future upgrades to the rest of the building. This project will allow more content to air on KALB, increase program quality, and improve technical efficiency.

The new equipment will make it possible for the following to integrate with the existing control system:

- Video feeds from the Edith Stone Room, Community Room, & EOC
- Studio infrastructure with keying possibilities
- Portable, multi-camera shoot capabilities

The Library has already set aside a week in mid-July without summer programming to accommodate the installation. Since a month must be allowed to order the equipment, the project should be approved in a timely manner. In order to complete the broadcast functionality of the Edith Stone Room project, the appropriate equipment in the KALB control room must be installed simultaneously.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT

N/A

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The KALB control room upgrade is estimated at \$30,000, including equipment and installation and will be funded from Cable TV PEG fund reserves which are specifically allocated to expenditure on capital costs for Public, Educational and Government programming. The City receives an annual payment of state franchise fees in the amount of approximately \$33,000 (\$23,000 from Comcast, \$10,000 from AT&T). The Albany Community Media Access Committee has recommended using PEG funds for this purpose.

Attachments:

1. KALB Upgrade Proposal for KALB Control Room, Jeremy Allen