

**COUNTY OF SONOMA
AGENDA ITEM
SUMMARY REPORT**

Clerk of the Board Use Only
Meeting Date **Held Until**
 / / / /
Agenda Item No: **Agenda Item No:**
 _____ _____

Department: Information Systems Department

() **4/5 Vote Required**

Contact:
Tim Pudoff

Phone:
(707) 565-1941

Board Date:
10-27-09

Deadline for Board Action:

AGENDA SHORT TITLE:

Agreement with North Coast Title Company for computerized data access.

REQUESTED BOARD ACTION:

The Information Systems Department requests that the Board of Supervisors approve and authorize the Chair to execute an Agreement with North Coast Title Company for computerized access to public information maintained by the Assessor's and Auditor-Controller-Treasurer-Tax Collector's office.

CURRENT FISCAL YEAR FINANCIAL IMPACT

EXPENDITURES

ADD'L FUNDS REQUIRING BOARD

Estimated Cost \$

Contingencies \$
(Fund Name:)

Amount Budgeted \$

Unanticipated Revenue \$
(Source:)

Other Avail Approp. \$
(Explain below)

Other Transfer(s) \$
(Source:)

Additional Requested: \$

Add'l Funds Requested: \$

Explanation (if required):

Prior Board Action(s): Approved similar agreements with eight other title companies since 1989.

Alternatives - Results of Non-Approval:

County would not collect additional revenue amounting to \$6,000 annually. North Coast Title Company's access to information would be limited.

Background:

In 1989, the County of Sonoma began providing electronic access to Tax Collector and Assessor information via personal computers located in title company offices. This access is used to perform title searches and without the access, title company employees would be making frequent phone calls or in-person visits to the County offices. This arrangement is of mutual benefit to the title companies and the County of Sonoma. The title companies can conduct title searches quickly and efficiently, and the County receives revenues and some traffic relief, and a lighter workload at the various service desks. The data access process is very secure and access is granted only to appropriate public records.

The basic setup is a single network connection per physical office site. The basic access fee is \$168 dollars per month, and this covers the Information System Department's (ISD) cost of computing time, technical support, and network connectivity fees. There is also a \$166 per month fee to access the Assessor's files and \$166 per month cost to access the Auditor-Controller-Treasurer-Tax Collector's (ACTTC) files. The additional fees offset the cost of maintaining the data. The total annual cost for one access line is \$6,000.

The information available to the title companies through the fee-based access contains more detailed property data and related documents (e.g., scanned Assessor Parcel Maps) as compared with the basic tax roll information available to the public via access to the Internet. The fee-based access enables the title companies to access real-time information that is critical to their workflow and is comparable to the information available only to County employees. We have similar agreements with other title companies in the area, and this service is available to any title company by request and approval of the Board of Supervisors.

This agreement is for one access line for North Coast Title Company for their office located at 318 Mendocino Avenue, Santa Rosa CA 95401.

The Information Systems Department requests that the Board of Supervisors approve and authorize the Chair to execute an Agreement with North Coast Title Company for computerized access to public information maintained by the Assessor's and ACTTC's office.

Attachments:

On File With Clerk:

Agreement for Computer Services with North Coast Title Company

CLERK OF THE BOARD USE ONLY

Board Action (If other than "Requested")

Vote: