



Arapahoe County

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Board Summary Report

File #: 24-083

Agenda Date: 2/26/2024

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To: Board of County Commissioners

Through: Philip Savino, Director, Information Technology Department

Prepared By:

Philip Savino, Director, Information Technology Department

Presenter: Philip Savino, Director, Information Technology Department

Subject:

1:30 PM *Digital Accessibility Consulting Services

Purpose and Request:

The purpose of this drop-in session is to inform the Board of County Commissioners of our request to hire a subject matter expert in the field of Digital Accessibility who can contribute their expertise in best practices and standards, driving our commitment to creating digital content that is accessible to all users.

Background and Discussion: We are seeking a third-party consultant with expertise in Digital Accessibility to assist us in defining countywide accessibility goals that are clear, actionable, meaningful, and measurable; evaluate ACG's existing technology landscape, performing manual assessments of web and digital technologies; remediate inaccessible technology with vendors and document workarounds; and assist in the development of a robust Digital Accessibility Transition Plan. To meet compliance by July 1, 2024, Arapahoe County Government, Information Technology, has collaborated and is partnering with The City of Centennial to leverage the expertise of a third-party Digital Accessibility Consulting Service. The City of Centennial published an RFP last year and awarded their contract to Converge Accessibility ("Converge"), a company focused from the ground up on helping organizations make digital accessibility easy. The cost to procure services with Converge is estimated to be between \$60,000-\$80,000, and approximately one year of services. We are asking the Board of County Commissioners for support to procure Converge as quickly as possible, giving us as much time to begin our journey towards becoming a digitally accessible county.

Fiscal Impact: \$60,000 to \$80,000 will be absorbed from Information Technology's budget.

Alternatives: Proceed with internal resources with no expertise in this focus area to date.

Alignment with Strategic Plan:

- Be fiscally sustainable
- Provide essential and mandated service
- Be community focused

Staff Recommendation: Staff recommends moving forward with retaining a consultant for the services and reasons listed in this report

Concurrence: E-Team supports and recommends.