



To: Board of Supervisors
From: Birgitta E. Corsello, County Administrator
Date: October 21, 2020
Subject: Significant Issues Update

1) Update on Solano County Library Services

Over the past few months, the Solano County Department of Library Services has made several modifications to its business model and how it serves residents due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic health emergency. These modifications include increasing access to physical branch locations through the implementation of an appointment based system, increasing customer access to library services and finding innovative ways for students, families and children to continue to enjoy library programs and services using technology. The following is a brief update regarding these changes.

Access to Library Branch Services

As of September 2020, all library branches are open for public access by appointment. Appointments to access the branches and for curbside pickup of materials may be made by calling or texting the library or by self-reservation (as of July 2020,) via the library's website. Customers may book one-hour appointments for library access; the average visit lasts 20 minutes. Computer use is limited to one hour and is extended if more time is needed. Walk-ups (without appointments) are accommodated as space allows. Additionally, Saturday hours have been restored at the three large branches (Fairfield Civic Center, John F. Kennedy (Vallejo), Vacaville Public Library - Cultural Center), increasing access especially for commuters and students. Beginning July 2020, the Library eliminated overdue fines for materials (approved by the Board of Supervisors on June 9, 2020: file 20-419) and began auto-renewals of charge library materials to reduce barriers to open access to library materials.

Expansion of Internet Technology

Currently, the Library is gathering bids to upgrade its WiFi infrastructure to provide for greater signal reach outside of its facilities and anticipates having the project completed by the end of March 2021. The Library will be adding additional WiFi hotspots for lending to increase digital access, bringing the total to 200 devices by the end of October 2020.

Expansion of Programs in the Virtual Setting

The Library continues to offer live streaming story-time and afternoon adventure programs through its Facebook page, interactive programs such as age-level book clubs and read-to-a-dog programs through Zoom and recorded programs via the Library's YouTube channel in support of early child literacy. Staff has been working with the Solano County Office of Education and the school districts to promote the Library's online databases and Tutor.com service and have begun to offer virtual class visits as part of fall orientation. The Literacy program is continuing to provide virtual tutor training and student support services and demand for Reach Out and Read materials is growing.

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2) Update on the Solano County Assessment and Taxation System Project

Solano County currently uses a software system called SCIPS (Solano County Integrated Property System) to manage the property assessment and taxation process for the County. For context, SCIPS is a custom-built computer software program, was implemented in the early 1980s and no longer has any vendor support. SCIPS also has significant limitations to its ability to scale for future growth and performance capabilities, primarily due to dated architecture and programming languages, archaic middleware products lack of support to access critical program upgrades. Because the SCIPS program presents the County with significant inefficiencies and the risk of potential severe issues arising during the property assessment and taxation process, the search for a new software system commenced.

In March 2019 County staff initiated the County Assessment and Taxation System (CATS), a project tasked to replace the current SCIPS system with a modern property taxation system. Understanding the SCIPS system would no longer meet the County's growing demand for service and performance, the Department of Information Technology, in coordination with the Department of General Services, went to bid on a replacement property assessment and taxation system – one with modern and advanced property assessment and taxation capabilities and functionality – including access to software updates and vendor support. After a comprehensive search, the County entered an agreement with Aumentum Technologies (formerly Harris Computing and Thomson Reuters) for use of their Aumentum product to manage, revise, plan and implement the new CATS system.

The agreement has the Aumentum Professional Services team owning the completion of all previous Solano County conversion responsibilities identified in the contracted scope of work for the duration of the project, all at no additional cost to the County. The Department of Information Technology is currently waiting on a revised project plan from Aumentum Technologies, and, in the meantime, other project related work is taking place, and progress is being made. Additionally, the Solano team has just finished and submitted the pre-requisite work that Aumentum Technologies requested that will help, amongst other things, facilitate the creation of the new project plan.

The budget for the CATS project is \$9,843,793. As of this publication, \$619,604 has been spent.

The updated agreement reduces our inherent risk by reducing the reliance on existing staff and the potential for significant project delays. The project still has several risks that the County is evaluating and will continue to track, including:

- Risk: Solano County Information Technology staff are at or near retirement age. Mitigation: The Department is hiring to backfill essential roles, implementing cross training and working to identify and exchange knowledge and skills with other team members.
- Risk: Solano User departments (Assessor, Auditor and Tax Collector) need to temporarily hire staff to free up existing subject matter experts to join the project effort fulltime. Mitigation: All three departments are in the process of hiring staff, making key resources available and working to ensure the project is fully staffed.

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3) Update from Probation, SB 1290

On September 30, 2020, Governor Newsom signed Senate Bill 1290 which required ending collection and discharging all fees charged to youth in the juvenile justice system, and some fees charged to youth under age 21 in the adult system, effective January 1, 2021. The Solano County Probation Department reviewed records from our collections system and there are no accounts for youth under age 21 for the collection of home supervision, electronic monitoring and drug testing fees; therefore, the County is in compliance with the new law.

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4) County Administrator's Update on Contracts

The County Administrator signed the following contracts within her authority since the last Significant Issues memo, including:

The Department of Health and Social Services, Administration Services division:

- (1) A contract with Geiss Consulting, to provide technical assistance on Behavior Health fiscal issues, \$49,000, from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021. The funding source is County Realignment funds.
- (2) A contract with Trilogy Integrated Resources, LLC, to maintain internet services for Solano's Network of Care website, \$63,750, from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021. The funding source is a mixture of County Realignment funds, federal and state revenues and Mental Health Service Act (MHSA) funds.

The Department of Health and Social Services, Behavioral Health division:

- (1) A contract with Xing Xing Luo, M.D., to provide psychiatric services to Solano County H&SS Behavioral Health division clients, \$70,833, from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021. The funding source is a combination of Short Doyle, 2011 Realignment and County General Fund.

The Department of Health and Social Services, Child Welfare Services division:

- (1) A contract with IDEA Consulting, to provide research, evaluation and quality improvement activities, grant writing and special project support, \$35,000, from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021. The funding source is MHSA Prevention and Early Intervention and 1991 Realignment funds.
- (2) A contract with California State University, Fresno Foundation, to provide direct training and field-based coaching to Child Welfare staff, \$69,379, from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021. The funding source is Title IV-E and County Realignment funds.

The Department of Health and Social Services, Mental Health division:

- (1) A contract with Janen Clinical Pharmacy Consultants, to provide required pharmacy inventory audits and consultation services, \$26,744, from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2022. The funding source is a combination of County General Funds and 2011 Realignment funds.
- (2) A contract with Monique Tarver, to provide African American Faith-Based Initiative: Mental Health Friendly Communities, \$30,000, from July 1, 2020 to June 20, 2021. The funding source is MHSA.

- (3) A contract with Horacio Jones, to provide consultation, training and technical assistance for the Mental Health Friendly Communities Initiative, \$30,060, from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021. The funding source is MHSA.
- (4) A contract with Alexis Rabourn, LMFT, to provide mental health care services to H&SS clients in the Managed Care Network Providers, \$40,000, from September 1, 2020 to August 31, 2022. The funding source is a combination of Short Doyle and 2011 Realignment funds.
- (5) A contract with Mary Roanne Samuels, LMFT, to provide mental health care services to H&SS clients in the Managed Care Network Providers, \$40,000, from September 1, 2020 to August 31, 2022. The funding source is a combination of Short Doyle and 2011 Realignment funds.
- (6) A contract with Marilee King, LMFT, to provide mental health care services to H&SS clients in the Managed Care Network Providers, \$40,000, from September 1, 2020 to August 31, 2022. The funding source is a combination of Short Doyle and 2011 Realignment funds.
- (7) A contract with Kirk Brooks, LMFT, to provide mental health care services to H&SS clients in the Managed Care Network Providers, \$40,000, from September 1, 2020 to August 31, 2022. The funding source is a combination of Short Doyle and 2011 Realignment funds.
- (8) A contract with John Hagelis, Ph.D., to provide mental health care services to H&SS clients in the Managed Care Network Providers, \$40,000, from September 1, 2020 to August 31, 2022. The funding source is a combination of Short Doyle and 2011 Realignment funds.
- (9) A contract with Therese Jones-Garrett, LMFT, to provide mental health care services to H&SS clients in the Managed Care Network Providers, \$40,000, from September 1, 2020 to August 31, 2022. The funding source is a combination of Short Doyle and 2011 Realignment funds.

The Department of Health and Social Services, Public Health division:

- (1) A contract with Touro University, California, to facilitate and execute the Mobile Diabetes Education Center through weekly outreach to low income, high-risk populations in Solano County, \$30,000, from July 15, 2020 to June 30, 2021. The funding source is the Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation.
- (2) A contract with Bosma Consulting, LLC, to provide evaluation services for County-wide Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug (ATOD) environmental policy and coalition efforts, \$41,840, from August 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021. The funding source is County Realignment funds.
- (3) A contract with Orchard Software Corporation, to provide laboratory information systems, \$43,585, from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021. The funding source is County Realignment funds.
- (4) A contract with Solano County Office of Education, to support and maintain Friday Night Live chapters throughout Solano County to reduce rates of ATOD use among youth, \$48,859, from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021. The funding source is federal SAPT funds and County General Fund.
- (5) A contract with Capuchino Therapy Group, to provide supplemental therapy services to California Children's Services (CCS) Medical Therapy Program, \$60,000, from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021. The funding source is Title XIX/XXIII federal funds.

The Department of Health and Social Services, Public Health division:

- (1) A contract with the City of Vacaville, to provide AIM services to adolescence in Vacaville, \$38,700, from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021. The funding source is federal Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant (SABG) funds.

The Department of Health and Social Services, Napa/Solano Area Agency on Aging:

- (1) A contract with the Ombudsman Services of Contra Costa, Inc., to provide Ombudsman services, \$25,121, from October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021. The funding source is Title VIIA federal funds and Coronavirus Aid Relief (CARES Act) funds.
- (2) A contract with Community Action of Napa Valley, to provide Title IIIB visiting nursing services for wellness checks, \$30,000, from October 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021. The funding source is Title VIIA federal funds and Coronavirus Aid Relief (CARES Act) funds.
- (3) A contract with Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Association, Inc., to provide family caregiving information and support services, \$30,000, from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021. The funding source is Federal Title IIIIE funds.
- (4) A contract with Innovative Health Solutions, to provide Title IIID health promotion classes, \$37,166, from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021. The funding source is Federal Title IIID funds.
- (5) A contract with North Coast Opportunities, Inc., to provide family caregiver support and respite care services, \$50,000, from October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021. The funding source is Title IIIIE federal funds and Coronavirus Aid Relief (CARES Act) funds.
- (6) A contract with Molly's Angels of Napa Valley, to provide transportation and visitation services, \$65,889, from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021. The funding source is Title IIIB federal funds.
- (7) A contract with Legal Services of Northern California, to provide Title IIIB legal services, \$70,000, from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021. The funding source is Title IIIB federal funds.