PALM BEACH COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS <u>AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY</u>

Meeting Date: N	Aarch 1, 2011	[X] Consent [] Public Hearing	[] Regular [] Workshop
Department:			
Submitted by: Submitted for:	Information Systems Serv Information Systems Serv		

I. EXECUTIVE BRIEF

Motion and Title: Staff recommends motion to approve:

A) establishment of an on-going program for the donation of surplus Palm Beach County computers for use in the Palm Beach Broadband "Digital Divide" program; and

B) authorize the Director of Information Systems Services to receive custody of donated computers from the County's warehouse and subsequently transfer ownership of these assets to the School District of Palm Beach County.

Summary: These surplus computers will be refurbished at Palm Beach County Schools by students and then provided to low-income members of the community who currently do not have computers at home. Eligible families are identified by the School District of Palm Beach County using the 'free and reduced lunch' program and other criteria.

The School District's computer refurbishment program has been in existence for a number of years and additional computers are needed to expand the program. The County's participation in this program will enable the recycling of computers that would otherwise be sold in bulk through the County Thrift Store. It is estimated that the Digital Divide program would be able to utilize approximately 30% of the surplus desktop PCs turned into OFMB's Fixed Asset Management Office each year. This program involves the collaborative efforts of members of the Palm Beach Broadband Coalition, including the County's Information Systems Services (ISS) Department. Countywide (PK)

Background and Justification: The Palm Beach Broadband Coalition, consisting of Palm Beach County Government, the School District of Palm Beach County, Palm Beach State College, Florida Atlantic University, South Florida Water Management District and The Palm Beach County Education Commission are collaborating to address the Digital Divide in selected high poverty neighborhoods in Palm Beach County.

The Palm Beach Broadband member agencies have joined with the City of West Palm Beach, the Urban League of Palm Beach County, the Town of Palm Beach United Way, and the Quantum Foundation to sponsor a "Digital Divide" project in the West Palm Beach neighborhood communities of Pleasant City and Coleman Park. More than 200 families with school-age children are participating in the program. Additionally, this project has created a two-square mile public WiFi zone where residents and visitors can access the Internet free of charge.

Residents and businesses located in the WiFi zone are able to connect to the Internet via wireless access points mounted throughout the neighborhoods. The network, managed by Palm Beach County, is a multi-use wireless network, which provides secure access for government and public safety agencies, as well as open public access to the Internet.

(continued on Page 3)

Recommended by: _	Steve Bordelon	2/8/2011	
	Department Director	Date	
Approved by:	County Administrator	$- \frac{\sqrt{n/l}}{Date}$	

II. FISCAL IMPACT ANALYSIS

A. Five Year Summary of Fiscal Impact

Fiscal Years	<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>
Capital Expenditures Operating Costs	\$0 <u>\$0</u>	\$0 <u>\$0</u>	\$0 <u>\$0</u>	\$0 <u>\$0</u>	\$0 <u>\$0</u>
External Revenues Program Inc (County) In-Kind Match (County)	<u>0</u> 0 0	<u>0</u> <u>0</u> <u>0</u>	<u>0</u> <u>0</u> <u>0</u>	<u>0</u> 0 0	0 0 0
NET FISCAL IMPACT	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
# Additional FTE Positions (Cumulative)	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Is Item Included in Current Bud	get	Yes	No <u>X</u>		
Budget Acct Number(s): Fu	ind Dept.	Unit Obje	ect		

B. Recommended Sources of Funds / Summary of Fiscal Impact

C. Department Fiscal Review:

III. REVIEW COMMENTS

d

Contraot

<u>5/11</u>

A. OEMB Fiscal and/or Contract Dev. & Control Comments:

OFMB Hitl 1 R alist B. Legal Sufficiency: Assistant Co Hity Attorney

C: Other Department Review:

Department Director

THIS SUMMARY IS NOT TO BE USED AS A BASIS FOR PAYMENT.

Background and Justification (continued from Page 1)

The School District, with assistance from the Quantum Foundation, established a computer refurbishment program at Pleasant City Middle School that supplies eligible neighborhood families with computers, educational software, and Internet training. This request for ongoing donations of surplus computers by Palm Beach County is intended to provide additional computers for refurbishment and use in the Digital Divide program.

This collaborative effort between the agencies to provide the funding, assets, staff expertise, and other resources necessary has become a model project in promoting computer literacy in underserved communities. As funding becomes available from grant sources, there are plans to expand the Digital Divide projects into other qualifying communities, including sites which have been tentatively identified in Delray Beach and Lake Worth.