

Recorder's Office Equipment Replacement**FY2001 Request: \$226,000****Reference No: 6915****AP/AL:** Appropriation**Project Type:** Renewal and Replacement**Category:** General Government**Location:** Statewide**Contact:** Nico Bus**House District:** Statewide (HD 1-40)**Contact Phone:** (907)465-2406**Estimated Project Dates:** 07/01/2000 - 06/30/2001**Brief Summary and Statement of Need:**

This is the third phase of a four-year project that will serve to reinforce the infrastructure of the Recorder's/UCC component by continuing the replacement of various types of micrographic and other equipment necessary for basic daily operations in fourteen locations throughout the state. The failure rate for much of the component's equipment items has steadily increased over the past several years, outpacing the operating funds available for replacement purposes and necessitating this capital request. Equipment down time is an ongoing problem for recording offices throughout the state and has a negative impact on customer service.

Funding:	<u>FY2001</u>	<u>FY2002</u>	<u>FY2003</u>	<u>FY2004</u>	<u>FY2005</u>	<u>FY2006</u>	<u>Total</u>
GF/Prgm	\$226,000	\$100,000					\$326,000
Total:	\$226,000	\$100,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$326,000

<input type="checkbox"/> State Match Required	<input type="checkbox"/> One-Time Project	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Phased Project	<input type="checkbox"/> On-Going
0% = Minimum State Match % Required		<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment	<input type="checkbox"/> Mental Health Bill

Operating & Maintenance Costs:

	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Staff</u>
Project Development:	0	0
Ongoing Operating:	0	0
One-Time Startup:	0	0
Totals:	0	0

Additional Information / Prior Funding History:

This is the third of four phases in a project to replace failing and outdated equipment in fourteen recording locations statewide. Some of this equipment has been in use for more than twenty years. The component received \$150.0 in FY99, and \$250.0 in FY00 (\$50.0 of which is for continuation of a separate aperture card conversion project). To date the component has replaced reader/printer machines in all offices, and acquired electric timestamps for all thirty-four of its recording districts statewide.

Project Description/Justification:**Description of work to be done:**

This phase of the equipment replacement project will purchase plat machines for five DNR recording locations (four offices were scheduled for replacement plat machines under prior phases of this project; two will be done in the next phase); microfiche digitizers for all office library locations; replacement micrographics equipment for the section's archive unit; PC units for the central scanning station and the quality control station in the section's archives; ten low end scanners and at least four low end servers for outlying locations to temporarily store images while documents are off-site for indexing and/or archive filming.

Project Benefits:

Replacing worn and malfunctioning equipment will provide substantial benefits to customers who rely heavily on this equipment to obtain information from the public record. The public will have faster access to document images, and will be able to access information from older media in a more timely manner. Also, by having more reliable equipment, staff

will be able to assist customers in obtaining information quicker. The frequency of processing backlogs will also decline if the equipment is more dependable.

One of the problems continually faced by the component is down time due to broken or malfunctioning equipment. This also creates problems for customers who visit the offices specifically to obtain research materials. When equipment is inoperable, the public cannot obtain the information needed and in some cases, such delays can be very costly to the public. When title companies are unable to perform their date down activities due to malfunctioning equipment in recording offices, disbursement of loan proceeds can be delayed, and the public at large can be adversely impacted.

Economic Development:

There is no direct creation of new jobs in the private sector. However, as a result of the equipment replacements covered by this CIP, employees of private industry who utilize the recorder's office on a frequent basis will be able to find the information they need in a faster and more efficient manner, and this equates to significant monetary savings for these private sector companies.

Project Support:

User support clearly exists for improved equipment and upgraded technology in recording offices statewide. Many customers have expressed a desire to be able to obtain access to the recording system data via the internet. Because they cannot do so, they must continue to visit recording offices in person to obtain copies of the information they need. This produces additional burden on outdated and malfunctioning micrographics and reproduction equipment, and results in frequent equipment down time. Replacement of such equipment is one of the most common needs noted in customer service questionnaires completed by the public.

Project Opposition:

The Recorder's Office is not aware of any public opposition to this project.

Specific Spending Detail:

This phase of the equipment replacement project will purchase one replacement plat machine for five recording offices located in Ketchikan, Kodiak, Kenai, Homer, and Palmer. Cost estimate is \$100.0, based on individual purchase price of \$20.0.

This equipment replacement project will also purchase at least 12 microfiche digitizer units for use in our public library areas statewide. This is new technology that will enable users to produce crisp clear digitized copies from microfiche, the principal media that has been used for retrieval purposes since approximately 1977. Cost estimate is \$18.0, based on individual purchase price of \$1.5.

This project will equip two scanning and quality control stations in the section's archive unit at a cost of \$10.0, based on individual purchase price of \$5.0.

Low end scanners will be purchased for all outlying offices in order to produce a temporary image of recorded documents while the original documents are off site. Small servers will also be purchased for the higher volume outlying offices, including Fairbanks, Palmer, Kenai and Juneau. Cost estimate of these scanners is \$5.0, based on individual purchase price of \$0.5. Cost estimate of the servers is \$10.0, based on individual purchase price of \$2.5.

This project will supplement archival operations with requisite micrographics equipment, including camera, duplicating equipment, and a jacketer. Cost estimate for these items is \$35.0. Any residual funds will be directed to replacement of terminals or printers in the recording office libraries.

Alternative Approaches/Financing Considered:

No financing has been considered as the program already raises more than \$2.0 million in excess of its operational expenditures.