

Date: September 17, 2020
To: Board of County Commissioners
From: Penny Postoak Ferguson, County Manager
Re: Weekly County Manager's Report

Jocogov.org Website Rebuild Project Restart

We will start the website rebuild project in October, which the Board approved on March 5th and was subsequently delayed due to COVID. The original cost approved included a one-time expense of \$758,300 and a five-year hosting and support agreement starting at \$92,000 per year increasing 3% annually. By starting the project this year, the vendor agreed to reduce the one-time cost by \$40,000 (5%). The funding for this project is allocated and included in the current budget, and no additional funding or action is required by the Board. There will be milestone payments of \$269,000 in 2020, with the remaining one-time payments in 2021.

Our current website has seen double the traffic since March compared to the same period last year and there are frequent complaints about the lack of usability. As noted in prior discussions, the website rebuild is a resident focused design and, when deployed, provides residents and business a significantly improved experience to find information and interact with the County. This redesign will also provide, in the long term, an opportunity to reduce costs and improve service to our residents. As part of the project, we will establish key performance indicators to measure success and return on this investment.

Innovative Technology Funding Opportunity for Transit

Transit is planning to apply for funding from the Kansas Department of Transportation's (KDOT) new "Innovative Technology" program, which seeks to "provide financial assistance to partners for innovative technology projects that improve safety, increase total technology investment and help both rural and urban areas of the state improve the transportation system."

Transit is seeking funding to integrate our various mobile applications into a single app for all of our service offerings, as well as for investments in transit signal prioritization on Metcalf Avenue and on 75th Street, as identified in the Mid-America Regional Council's SmartMoves 3.0 long-range transportation plan.

The KDOT program has a maximum award amount of \$1M per cycle, and requires a 25% local match. Transit staff anticipates requesting funding in the amount of \$350,000, with a local match of \$87,500 from transit reserves.