

REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION

HENDERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MEETING DATE: July 19, 2017

SUBJECT: Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) Grant

PRESENTER: Trina Rushing, Library Director

ATTACHMENTS: No

SUMMARY OF REQUEST:

Library staff requests approval to submit a Federal Library Services Technology Act (LSTA) grant application for the supply, installation and training of a Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) System which will work in conjunction with the Library's shared Integrated Library System (ILS), Evergreen, via the NC Cardinal consortium.

RFID implementation consists of inserting security tags into every physical item in the collection, installation of security gates at entrances to each library, and installation of equipment and software necessary to integrate this system into our current ILS.

RFID systems provide significant workflow improvements for both staff and patrons. The advantages of implementing RFID include significant productivity gains through reduction in labor-intensive workflow processes, enhanced customer experience, streamlined patron self-checkout, higher levels of personalized customer service, improved inventory and shelf accuracy, and reduced material losses.

This will be a 2-year grant with the first year covering the cost for item tagging, equipment, software and gate installation at the Main Library, and the second year covering like costs for the branch libraries. The total 2-year cost for RFID implementation system-wide is estimated at \$200,000.

LSTA grants will award up to \$100,000 per year with a 25% match requirement the first year and a 33% match requirement the second year. No additional funds will be requested of the County as the Library intends to request matching funds from the Friends of the Library for both grant cycles.

The timeline for year 1 is as follows:

- September 2017: Letter of Intent Due
- February 2018: Grant Application Due
- June 2018: Grant Awards Announced
- July 2018 – June 2019: RFID implementation

The timeline for year 2 will follow a similar structure with grant implementation occurring July 2019-June 2020.

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:

Library staff requests the Board approve the submission of a 2-year LSTA Grant application for RFID implementation in the amount of up to \$200,000 with matching funds coming from the Friends of the Library.

SUGGESTED MOTION:

I move that the Board approves submission of a 2-year LSTA Grant in the amount of up to \$200,000 with matching funds coming from the Friends of the Library.