Cost Justification for Upgrading Computer and Network Technology at the Newark Public Library
Introduction

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The North Texas Regional Library System (NTRLS), a non-profit organization located in Fort Worth, Texas, USA, serves over 2,000,000 people. We provide services and materials to 72 public library members and offer resources to other types of libraries, creating a sharing environment. Our mission is to promote excellence in library service to Texas communities.
Benefits of Upgrading Equipment – Business Community

- Innovative library can be used as a selling point to prospective businesses considering moving into the area.
- Small businesses can cut operational/start up costs by utilizing the library computers for Internet access, word processing, spreadsheets and data management.
- Online Fee-Based Informational databases available at no cost.
- Employers and job seekers can take advantage of online job resources.
- Microsoft Office Suite will allow job seekers to produce quality support documents such as resumes and cover letters.
Benefits of Upgrading Equipment – Education Community

- Low income families will have access to computer technology thus reducing the “digital divide” in your community.
- Public schools can utilize library as a secondary source for computer technology.
- Lifelong learners and adult students can take advantage of the technology to learn new skills and attend online college courses.
- Home and private schools can have access to the same level of technology as public schools.
Figure 4

Library computers are particularly important to rural and small town library patrons for obtaining medical information.

- Find a job
- Find job training
- Write or print resume
- Write/print reports
- Do my job
- Find housing
- Find transportation information
- Learn about local events
- Get information about voting issues
- Review alternative news sources
- Learn about a medical problem

Percent saying library computers have helped this way

Urban vs. Suburban vs. Rural and small town

Source:
“The Impact of Public Access Computing on Rural and Small Town Libraries”
Public Access Computing Project
Evans School of Public Affairs
University of Washington
January 2003

PAOP 2002 data
Benefits of Upgrading Equipment –
Other Benefits/Notes

- Faster connectivity speed will allow library patrons to perform common Internet tasks, such as file downloads and checking email, in a considerable less amount of time.
- Upgrade in the operating systems will allow library to take full advantage of the Windows 2000 platform including applying proper security on each public access workstation.
- Anti-Virus software will protect the library’s network from computer viruses and worms.
- Upgrade in Hardware is required in order to run the new upgraded software.
Estimated Costs Involved

Total Cost of Upgrade (first year): $5192.

**Internet Service Provider**
- $1995.00 for equipment and install
- $1428.00 for twelve months of service at 119.00/month

**Software**
- $90.00 for CD kits
- $119.00 for Win 2k Server
- $186.00 for CD Kit & License for antivirus software (Norton)
- $540.00 for 9 copies of Windows XP pro at 60.00 each
- $540.00 for 9 copies of Windows XP Office at 60.00 each.

**Hardware**
- $294.00 for 12 sticks of RAM at 24.50 each.

Note: Price for RAM varies depending on the time of its purchase.

**Erate Discounts**
Newark Public Library is eligible to apply for erate discounts on all telecommunication services. Beginning in July 2004, Newark Public Library will begin to receive a 40 to 90 percent discount on its monthly charges. The discount is based on how many children are on the student/lunch program in Northwest ISD. If the reduction is 80 percent, this reduces the monthly commitment to $23.80/month for the service mentioned above.

In addition, Newark Public Library will be able to apply for those discounts on any telecommunications services it purchases including telephone.
Contact Information

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