MEMORANDUM

TO: Legal & Finance Committee
FROM: Don Jarvinen, GIS Coordinator
DATE: October 21, 2016
RE: GIS Software Enterprise License Agreement

Staff requests City Council authorization for the Mayor and Finance Officer to sign a three-year contract with the Environmental Systems Research Institute, Inc. (ESRI) for an Enterprise License Agreement (ELA). This will be the fourth three-year ELA between the City and ESRI.

Before the ELA, individual licenses were purchased for each software installation and annual maintenance was paid for each license. Nine years ago ESRI developed the ELA program for small government units with populations less than 100,000. The GIS Division was the first organization to sign up for the program. Besides having unlimited access to software, we saved thousands of dollars per year on maintenance costs. Our annual maintenance and new software costs before the ELA were in the $60,000 range.

The 2010 census population for the county was 100,948, which put us above the limit for the program. However, ESRI recently set up a formula to allow those jurisdictions that exceed the population limit to continue in the program for a reasonable cost. The last three years’ additional cost for us was $450 per year, for a total of $50,450 annually plus an “add on” license for GPS field data collection software for $1,010 per year. For the next three year period, the costs are set at $52,200 and $1,044 respectively, based on the projected population of the County. This works out to an increase of $1,784 per year.

The ESRI company provides all of the GIS software used by the City and County except for the RapidMap interface which requires ESRI server software to run. We currently have over 145 software installations on individual computers, several of which have software “extensions” which,
if purchased separately, would add to the license cost. We have five separate web mapping installations which include the staff and public RapidMap sites, the building permit software site, a database site at the County Highway Department, and a development site. The mobile GPS data collection software is used by the GIS Division, the County Highway Department, and the County Weed and Pest Division. The ELA also gives us access to technical support and free software upgrades. ESRI also provides a new cloud-based mapping system that we’re using for several public and internal web mapping sites. The ELA provides $37,500 worth of data storage and processing time on the cloud servers.