



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101  
(805) 568-2240

**Department Name:** Public Health  
**Department No.:** 041  
**For Agenda Of:** May 12, 2015  
**Placement:** Administrative  
**Estimated Time:**  
**Continued Item:** No  
**If Yes, date from:**  
**Vote Required:** 4/5

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors  
**FROM:** Department Takashi Wada MD, MPH, 681.5102  
Director(s) Director  
Contact Info: Ellen Willis-Conger, 681.5446  
Assistant Deputy Director  
**SUBJECT: Bid Waiver Request for Purchase of Public Health Laboratory Equipment: Magna Pure Compact Extractor from Roche Diagnostics**

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**County Counsel Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: General Services Purchasing Division

As to form: Yes

**Auditor-Controller Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

**Recommended Actions:**

That the Board of Supervisors considers the following recommendations:

- a) Authorize the Purchasing Manager to issue a purchase order with Roche Diagnostics (not a local vendor) for the purchase of a Magna Pure Compact System for a total purchase amount not to exceed \$42,500.00, and without a competitive bid, pursuant to County Code Section 2-39.
- b) Approve a Budget Revision Request (BJE #0003882) in the amount of \$42,500 for the purchase of a specimen extractor funded by unanticipated revenue from CenCal (\$28,500) and transfer of appropriation from Services and Supplies (\$14,000).
- c) Determine that the above actions are organizational and administrative activities of government that are not a project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to section 15378(b)(5) of the CEQA Guidelines.

**Summary Text:**

The Public Health Laboratory is pursuing the purchase of new laboratory equipment to increase the speed of testing for the highly contagious illnesses of Norovirus, Influenza and B. Pertussis. Magna Pure Compact by Roche Diagnostics will provide additional volume for extraction and faster processing of specimens. The Magna Pure Compact system will provide the most affordable and most appropriate increase in productivity to our extraction process for testing in the Santa Barbara County Public Health

Laboratory. Public Health is requesting that the Board waive the requirement for a competitive bid for the purchase of this laboratory equipment due to the limited manufacturers and specific capacity needs for the department. The department researched two other vendors for this particular equipment; one system was too large and not cost effective, the other was not FDA approved for the required testing.

**Background:** The role of the Public Health Laboratory (PHL) is distinct from other clinical laboratories. PHL’s unique role is to test for communicable diseases within our County and provide resources to private and public health care providers and clinical laboratories to limit the spread of diseases that affect the health of our community. The Public Health Laboratory provides testing for many communicable diseases that require an extraction prior to processing. The proposed equipment for purchase performs extraction tasks in a timely manner.

The Magna Pure Compact system enables extraction for fourteen specimens in the time it takes our current equipment to extract for six specimens. This equipment will save time and enable greater productivity in testing. Staff time required to do 28 extractions will be reduced from 6 hours to 2 hours. The additional capacity to process specimens will allow for 28 tests versus the current volume of 10 extractions and tests per day.

These illnesses affect populations in cycles, and can spread rapidly through large numbers of people in dense/congregate settings. A more rapid testing procedure and prompt results will provide for appropriate isolation and treatment of those affected by the illnesses. More rapid turn-around time for resulting, will limit the number of people exposed, and prevent transmission to the rest of the affected community.

Funding for this instrument is partially provided by the Public Health Emergency Preparedness grant due to the highly communicable nature of these diseases (Norovirus, Influenza and B. Pertussis) and their potential to create a surge of illness within our community.

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

Budgeted: Fixed Asset, No; Maintenance, Yes

**Fiscal Analysis:**

<b><u>Funding Sources</u></b>	<b><u>Current FY Cost:</u></b>	<b><u>Annualized On-going Cost:</u></b>	<b><u>Total One-Time Project Cost</u></b>
General Fund			
State			
Federal	\$ 14,000.00		
Fees	\$ 28,500.00	\$ 2,960.00	
Other:			
Total	\$ 42,500.00	\$ 2,960.00	\$ -

Narrative: This budget revision is necessary to establish a fixed asset appropriation for a higher volume more efficient specimen extractor in the Public Health Laboratory for Influenza, Norovirus and Pertussis testing. Funding, in the amount of \$14,000, is available in the Public Health Emergency Preparedness grant and through unanticipated revenue from CenCal due to higher than anticipated volume of new Medi-Cal expansion members. This fixed asset will replace a low-volume extractor.

The budget revision request of \$42,500 is for the purchase of the fixed asset, which includes the first year of maintenance. Ongoing maintenance of \$2,960 is included in the FY 2015-2016 recommended budget.

The Roche Diagnostic extractor is replacing a smaller extractor. Ongoing maintenance of \$3,560, for the smaller machine, was included in current year budget and FY 2015-2016 recommended budget. Thus, the next three year's maintenance will be \$2,960, \$600 a year lower than the current machine.

**Staffing Impacts:** Staff time will be reduced for preparing (extraction) specimens for testing. The current equipment requires 6 hours of staff time for the extraction of 28 specimens. The Magna Pure Compact will require 130 minutes of staff time for extracting the same number of specimens.

**Legal Positions:**  
0

**FTEs:**  
0

**Special Instructions:**

Please return one electronic copy of the Minute Order to PHD Contracts Unit at [phdcu@co.santa-barbara.ca.us](mailto:phdcu@co.santa-barbara.ca.us) and one copy of the Minute Order to Purchasing, Attention: Mark Masoner.

**Attachments:**

Budget Revision Request (BJE #0003882)

**Authored by:**

Ellen Willis-Conger