



Albemarle County

Legislation Text

File #: 16-681, **Version:** 1

AGENDA DATE: 12/7/2016

TITLE:

Expansion of Video Streaming Capabilities to Room 241

SUBJECT/PROPOSAL/REQUEST: Reappropriation Request for One Time Funding to Outfit Room 241 for Live Video Streaming for Board of Supervisors Meetings

ITEM TYPE: Consent Action Item

STAFF CONTACT(S): Tom Foley, Lee Catlin, Claudette Borgersen, Travis Morris, Michael Culp

PRESENTER (S): n/a

LEGAL REVIEW: Not Required

REVIEWED BY: Thomas C. Foley

BACKGROUND: In February, 2015, the Board of Supervisors authorized an initial phase of live video streaming of Board meetings, which involved outfitting Lane Auditorium to broadcast meetings occurring in that space. The installation of equipment and launch of this first phase was coordinated with the implementation of the new Granicus agenda management software, which manages the live streaming and video archiving. Video streaming commenced at the Board's September 2015 meeting.

STRATEGIC PLAN: Citizen engagement

DISCUSSION: When the initial phase of video streaming began, staff intended to assess usage and determine whether the service should be expanded to any other venues. One year after the launch of video streaming, staff's analysis reveals a 155 per meeting average number of viewers (either live or archived) for 2016. The per meeting totals range from a high of 439 viewers per meeting in January to a low of 68 in April. Staff believes this robust level of viewership justifies additional investment to expand the County's video streaming capability to Room 241.

Another factor in the decision to expand the service involves meeting location. All work sessions and joint meetings have been moved to Lane Auditorium to take advantage of the video streaming technology. Video streaming capability in Room 241 will allow the Board to resume its work sessions and joint meetings in an environment that is more suited to those types of sessions. If this reappropriation is approved, staff plans to have the system installed and functional in Room 241 by early February 2017.

BUDGET IMPACT: The reappropriation request is for \$28,706.45 to fund one time purchase of equipment and installation costs to set up the system. There is an additional annual cost of approximately \$1,200 for expenses related to the Granicus Software program that can be covered within existing resources.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the Board approve this reappropriation and direct staff to move forward with installing the system.

