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January 19, 2018

TO: RAILS Board

FROM: Deirdre Brennan
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ABOUT: Find More Illinois (Overlay Project)

Overview

This memo provides an update on the overlay project, now named Find More Illinois, and its budget. We ask that the RAILS Board approve the budget to move forward with the pilot project.

Project Update

Find More Illinois was chosen as the new name of the overlay project, as it emphasizes the increased discovery aspect of the project and fits with Explore More Illinois, the museum/cultural attraction pass program that RAILS is also developing.

Contract negotiations with Auto-Graphics, assisted by consultant Rob McGee, began in November, following approval at the October board meeting to move forward with negotiations. Paul R. Cope, Auto-Graphics President, worked hard to accommodate RAILS needs for an affordable pilot project and a pricing structure that supports the subsequent expansion of the program. Although negotiations are complete, the contract will not be signed until the RAILS Board approves the pilot project budget.

Recruitment for the pilot project also ramped up, beginning in November. We're pleased with the response. As of January 18, two I-Share libraries, ten PrairieCat libraries, and five libraries from the Rock River Library Consortium are confirmed participants for the pilot project. The remaining three slots are being held for additional I-Share libraries, but will be filled from the waiting list of PrairieCat libraries if no more I-Share libraries participate. The deadline for notifying Jane Plass of participation in the pilot project is January 25, 2018.

The pilot project schedule is still tentative. However, implementation is expected to begin in early February, with training for the pilot participants in April and a public launch for the pilot participants' patrons soon after that. Although only participating libraries and their patrons will be able to use Find More Illinois for interlibrary loans, anyone will be able to search the virtual union catalog. Assuming the pilot goes well, which we expect, we may open participation to additional libraries as soon as fall 2018.

Project Budget

During contract negotiations, which were extensive, the pilot project cost was reduced from \$669,100 (including one-time costs and annual fees for two years). The timetable was also restructured to shorten the initial pilot period and encourage faster expansion, and the overall pricing structure was revised to maximize economies of scale as more libraries participate.

Pilot Project

The pilot project budget includes one-time costs and a base system fee for operational costs.

The one-time cost of \$41,000 includes:

- Software implementation of the base system
- Connections with three consortial integrated library systems (ILSs)—I-Share, PrairieCat, and Rock River Library Consortium
- One NCIP implementation. Only I-Share currently uses NCIP (the NISO Circulation Interchange Protocol), which provides additional interoperability with the ILS.
- Implementation for 20 libraries in the pilot project
- Three days of initial training in spring 2018, with two days of additional in-person or virtual training if needed in fall 2018

The base system fee is the annual fee of \$110,000 for ongoing Auto-Graphics services. It covers the 20 libraries in the pilot project and includes the following:

- Software hosting
- Virtual Z39.50 and union database modules as needed
- ISO ILL module. This protocol supports interoperability between interlibrary loan systems.
- NCIP and SIP (Standard Interchange Protocol) support
- Copy cataloging and reporting functions
- Support and maintenance

Not included in these costs are fees for enhanced content (cover art) and software development. Auto-Graphic's annual fee for enhanced content through Content Café or Syndetics Solutions is \$6,000, but we are also negotiating with Baker & Taylor to provide this content. Software development to add reciprocal borrowing functionality is estimated at \$15,000 (120 hours at \$125/hour).

RAILS will not charge pilot participants through February 2019, so there is no offsetting revenue.

In summary, the projected budget for the pilot project and desired software development is \$172,000.

One-time costs for implementation and initial training	\$41,000
Annual base system fee	\$110,000
Enhanced content (cover art)	\$6,000
Software development to add reciprocal borrowing functionality	\$15,000
Total	\$172,000

These costs will be spread across FY2018 and FY2019. The annual fee will be billed quarterly, with the first two quarters falling in FY2018. One-time costs will be paid in three installments, with approximately 30% due in FY2018.

Expanded Project

There will also be one-time costs and additional operational costs as the project expands, which could be as soon as fall 2018. One-time costs will depend on the number of libraries and integrated library systems that are connected, as well as any additional modules (such as searching of electronic resources) that we may want in the future.

The annual operational costs will be the \$110,000 base system fee plus a unit cost for each library above the initial 20 pilot participants. The unit cost structure is tiered, so that per library costs decrease as more libraries are added. These fees will be charged to RAILS; the participation fee structure for libraries will be developed during the pilot period. We will seek to make participation as affordable as possible for libraries of all sizes and types.

Benefits and Requested Action

The benefits of Find More Illinois are potentially enormous for all Illinois libraries and their patrons, as stated in our 2015 value proposition:

- Seamless discovery and delivery for patrons: click it, find it, get it
 - Fast and easy to use from anywhere
 - No need to re-enter searches
- Better interlibrary loan service, efficiency, and cost-effectiveness for libraries
 - Self-service for patrons reluctant to ask for interlibrary loan help
 - Reduction in staff time and effort
 - Lower-cost alternative to OCLC for libraries that want one
- Support for reciprocal borrowing service

Since SHAREIt provides both interlibrary loan functionality and access to bibliographic records, it may prove a very cost-effective alternative to OCLC, whose fees to libraries have been problematic for years. Also, it will be a cost-effective way for nonautomated libraries to make their holdings discoverable online and for both standalone libraries and consortium members to participate in resource sharing more fully.

We ask that the RAILS Board approve moving forward with the Find More Illinois pilot project and software development for reciprocal borrowing functionality with a projected first-year budget of \$172,000.