

## Response to Questions on the FY 2012 Budget

**Request By:** Supervisor Foust

**Question:** Regarding the use of Cable Funding to support key initiatives: What is the plan for spending \$2 million for web-based social media security and functionality? If this is truly needed and not separately funded, what other IT functions would be affected by dedicating resources to this function? What would be the impact if this was not funded or if only \$1 million was spent on this function in FY 2012?

**Response:** In the FY 2012 Advertised Budget Plan, funding of \$2.0 million is provided for deployment of up-to-date technology to support secure access of new web-based social media functionalities. This project will implement protected web security gateway infrastructure that will provide comprehensive secure social media access to County agencies for agency business needs, smart media/video streaming, and data leakage protection. Some County agencies must now use social media sites for conducting County business with constituents and community partners. As users increasingly embrace social media and mobile computing the County must proactively plan and implement robust IT security infrastructure for safeguarding the County's critical systems from increasingly sophisticated threats arising from new tools. This project will improve compliance with regulatory standards, proactively mitigate against cyber security threats to the County's networks, enable real time security monitoring and capture web traffic intelligence efficiently.

No other IT function is impacted by dedicating resources to this function as funds available in Fund 105, Cable Communications are being used to secure and deploy this technology.

Recognizing the value of technology to County government, ensuring the security of the County's IT investments and information assets is of primary importance. If this project is not funded in FY 2012, the County will not be able to provide comprehensive secure social media access to County agencies. The proposed solution is not scalable. The \$2.0 million supports a complete solution intended to effectively mitigate the risks associated with employees using social media from inside the County. Without the whole solution, the Department of Information Technology cannot provide the access without introducing an unacceptable level of risk to the County.