

April 20, 2017

17-092

AUTHORIZE PURCHASE OF F5 LOAD BALANCER  
FROM CONVERGEONE

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FINANCIAL  
RESPONSIBILITY: Michael Northover, CIO, Information Technology

APPROVED BY: Mark Mitsui, College President

REPORT: Portland Community College's Information Technology Department requests Board Approval to acquire F5 load balancers to replace the current end-of-life F5 load balancers. The F5 load balancers distribute the network load efficiently across multiple servers and they provide network monitoring for IT security.

The F5 load balancers cost \$182,408. Maintenance is \$30,566 annually, for three years, and the implementation cost is \$23,400. The total cost including three year maintenance and implementation is \$266,940. These funds are fully budgeted within the FY17-FY20 IT General Fund budget.

Because this procurement exceeds \$150,000, procurement rules require that we put this out to competitive bid. However, because this is replacement of existing ("end-of-life") technology from a vendor with an existing contract with PCC, the President has waived procurement rules in this instance.

IT purchasing performed required due diligence for Minority, Women & Emerging Small Businesses (MWESB) by checking the Certification Office for Business Diversity (COBID) per Board Policy B-506. There is no F5 authorized reseller in the COBID directory of certified firms.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Portland Community College Board of Directors ratify the President's waiver of procurement rules in this instance and approve the acquisition of replacement F5 load balancer hardware. The agreement will not exceed \$266,940. Funding is provided by the General Fund.