

TO: Library Board
FROM: David Ruff, Director
RE: Community Room Sound System Replacement
DATE: November 05, 2019

Background: The Sound System in the Community Room was installed as part of the 1987 expansion. For the past few years, it has begun to behave erratically with unpredictable cut-outs and background noises. It is essential that the sound system perform well because the Library is a major community venue for concerts, piano recitals, movies and other programming. This year's 2019 budget includes \$14,000 to replace and upgrade the sound system.

We advertised for bidders in the Daily Herald and on our web page. The mandatory pre-bid meeting was attended by six vendors. Two chose to submit bids. Those bids are as follows:

OSA \$ 12,604.71
Pentegra \$ 17,340.00

Recommendation: Staff recommends the Board accept the **Pentegra** bid for the bid amount of \$17,340.00. We have the funds to pay for this project, even at the \$17,340 level, due to cost savings in other areas of the 2019 budget. While Pentegra is the higher of the two bids, it is recommended for the following reasons:

1. Pentegra includes six speakers. OSA includes only four. We believe the additional speakers will provide better sound performance and flexibility in mixing.
2. Pentegra provides better ability to control mixing of audio inputs. Pentegra includes a system processor to provide more control against audio feedback and allows even sound levels in all zones.
3. Pentegra's microphone quality is significantly better. OSA's bid includes a plain wireless microphone. Pentegra offers a rechargeable wireless microphone of superior quality.
4. Pentegra provided three references and has completed projects for three libraries. OSA did not submit references and we are unaware of any experience with libraries.
5. The warranties are similar, but Pentegra's appears to be more inclusive in that it covers equipment for one year for all equipment originally provided by Pentegra; whereas, OSA relies exclusively on the manufacturer's warranties but will charge the library for "on-site service" for all equipment that fails after ninety (90) days of installation (at prevailing service rates).