

# SB 707 Technology

Jeff Bennyhoff, Director of Information Technology — April 20, 2026

## What Council is being asked to approve

### 1. Required compliance technology

Approve procurement and implementation of \$34,546.

### 2. Optional enhancements

Approve the optional package for an additional \$89,278.

### 3. Procurement authority

Waive competitive bidding under Merced Municipal Code § 3.04.210 for standardization and cooperative purchasing.

### 4. Budget and contract actions

Approve the \$21,300 supplemental appropriation, the \$1,901 Granicus change order, and the \$20,872 Sourcewell increase.

### Decision alternatives

Adopt as recommended; approve with changes; refer back for further evaluation; or deny.

### Action Item

This item will require five (5) affirmative notes for approval

## Cost summary

Required items cover baseline SB 707 compliance. Optional items improve usability, resilience, and meeting administration.

### Required items

**Total: \$34,546**

Remote registration and queue Management system	<b>\$19,399</b>	FYI contract already executed
Portable equipment (offsite / town hall use)	\$6,615	Waive bid cooperative agreement
Stream/comment monitoring stations	\$8,532	Waive cooperative bid agreement

**PEG Fund: \$15,147**

**Support Services Fund: \$19,399**

### Optional items

**Total: \$89,278**

Council Chambers 3rd-party use	<b>\$16,469</b>	Below bid threshold
Asyn public comment portal	<b>\$1,901</b>	Waive bid standardization
Video production replacement	<b>\$48,463</b>	Waive bid standardization
Agenda item display system	<b>\$13,063</b>	Below bid threshold
Remote comment countdown timer	<b>\$3,657</b>	Below bid threshold
Sam Pipes Room backup capability	<b>\$5,725</b>	Waive bid cooperative agreement

**PEG Fund: \$87,377**

**Support Services Fund: \$1,901**

# Funding

## PEG Fund

PEG revenues are restricted for public, educational, and governmental audiovisual access. Capital equipment and installation supporting governmental broadcasting, including Council Chambers AV systems, qualifies for PEG funding.

## Support Service 7008 Fund

Any project costs not covered by PEG revenues will be funded from unreserved, unencumbered Support Services 7008 Fund balance. The requested supplemental appropriation is \$21,300.

## Annual impact

The I.T. department expects about \$1,600 in overtime each year, plus \$21,104 in ongoing licensing and support costs to be reflected in future operating budgets.

## Funding split for the full package

PEG Fund: \$102,524

Support Services Fund: \$21,300



\$123,824 total

## Council Chambers 3rd Party Use

### Purpose

Configure Council Chambers to support SB 707-compliant meetings for outside governmental agencies.

**\$16,469**

**PEG Fund**

### Procurement authority

Below bid threshold

### Why it matters

The existing system is configured for City legislative bodies and cannot support third-party SB 707-compliant meetings without additional equipment. Because Administrative Policy A-4 does not charge a facility use fee for governmental entities, the cost would not be offset through room rental revenue.

## Asynchronous Public Comment Portal

### Purpose

Allow written public comments to be submitted before meetings to improve access and efficiency.

**\$1,901**

**Support Services Fund**

### Procurement authority

Waive bid standardization

### Why it matters

Written e-comments would supplement, not replace, real-time public comment. The portal improves accessibility for residents who cannot attend live or prefer not to speak publicly.

## Video Production and Streaming System Replacement

### Purpose

Replace the Council Chambers production and streaming system as part of the City's meeting technology refresh.

**\$48,463**

**PEG Fund**

### Procurement authority

Waive bid standardization

### Why it matters

The current system is nearing the end of its useful life. Proceeding now allows the City to coordinate the replacement with current operational changes, avoid duplicate work, and incorporate minor enhancements.

## Agenda Item Display System

### Purpose

Add a display that clearly shows the agenda item currently under consideration.

**\$13,063**

**PEG Fund**

### Procurement authority

Below bid threshold

### Why it matters

This improvement reduces confusion for attendees who join mid-meeting and supports more orderly public comment by making the active agenda item visible in real time.

## Remote Public Comment Countdown Timer Integration

### Purpose

Integrate the countdown clock into the remote meeting platform so speakers can see remaining time.

**\$3,657**

**PEG Fund**

### Procurement authority

Below bid threshold

### Why it matters

The integration would allow remote participants to see time remaining and hear the audible buzzer at expiration, improving transparency and reducing the need for verbal reminders.

## Sam Pipes Room Backup Meeting Capability

### Purpose

Configure the Sam Pipes Room to serve as a backup location for legislative body meetings.

**\$5,725**

**PEG Fund**

### Procurement authority

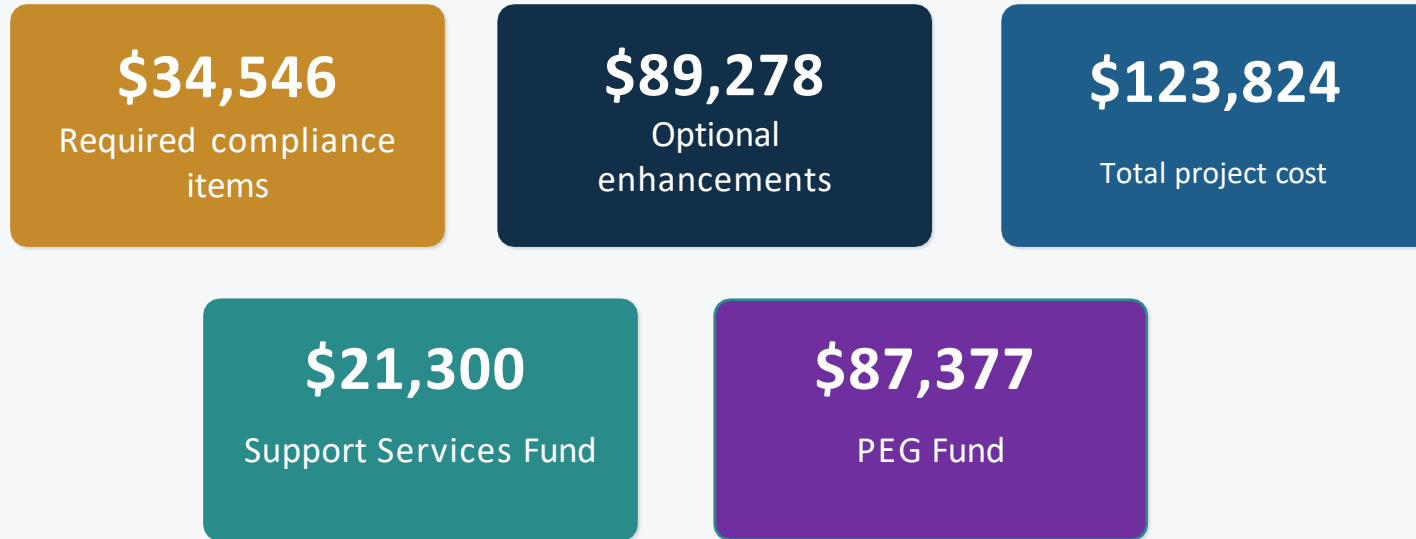
Waive bid cooperative agreement

### Why it matters

This redundancy helps maintain uninterrupted public access and reduces operational risk by providing an alternate meeting space when the Council Chambers are unavailable.

## Council Action Summary

Authorization to procure SB 707 compliance technology, waive competitive bidding, and approve a supplemental appropriation



# Questions ?