

COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE  
INTEROFFICE COMMUNICATION

Date : January 15, 2016

To : Supervisor Willie Johnson, Jr., Co-Chair, Finance, Personnel and Audit Cte  
Supervisor Jim "Luigi" Schmitt, Co-Chair, Finance, Personnel and Audit Cte

From : Laurie Panella, Chief Information Officer, DAS - IMSD

Subject: Informational Report: Enterprise Platform Modernization (Capital Project WO602)

**BACKGROUND**

Milwaukee County is facing technical debt in areas that provide critical services to County Departments/Divisions and employees. Two of the mission-critical areas include Finance and Human Resource Management (HR). In some instances, such as with the Advantage system, the application is 16 years old and requires proprietary hardware with specialized expertise to maintain. Many of these hardware components are no longer produced or supported by the manufacturer. Annual software maintenance, support, and licensing costs necessary to sustain the legacy Financial and HR applications have been regularly increasing, and many legacy applications are no longer supported by the vendor(s) (ie: Ceridian). This technical debt creates risk for the County's mission-critical financial and HR operations. Capital project WO602 – Enterprise Platform Modernization was created not only to address the technical risk but also to identify operational inefficiencies and optimize the current business processes.

Through a competitive bidding process and with passive review of the County Board of Supervisors, Plante & Moran (PM) was awarded a contract to begin WO602-Enterprise Platform Modernization. Since September 2015, PM has worked with County Departments and Divisions on a needs assessment of the County's core financial and HR operations, and a technical review of the systems that support these functions. PM was selected because of their in-depth knowledge of, experience in, and success with performing similar work in the government sector.

**PROJECT STATUS**

PM is in the final stage of the needs assessment, and the final report will be presented to Milwaukee County in February 2016. Attached please find a PowerPoint Presentation that overviews the project, current state, and next steps.

**RECOMMENDATION**

The Chief Information Officer of the Department of Administration, Information Management Services Division respectfully requests this report be received and placed on file.

  
Laurie Panella, DAS-IMSD  
Chief Information Officer