



Agenda Item #: _____

Staff Report

City of Manhattan Beach

TO: Honorable Mayor Wilson and Members of the City Council

THROUGH: Geoff Dolan, City Manager

FROM: Bruce Moe, Finance Director
Leilani Flores Emnace, Information Systems Manager

DATE: March 1, 2005

SUBJECT: Presentation of City's New Streaming Video Web Casting Service (Council Work Plan Item)

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the City Council receive and file this report.

FISCAL IMPLICATION:

Services for streaming video are being provided by Granicus, Inc. on a one year evaluation at no cost. Hardware costs for streaming video amounted to \$2,500 taken from the Information Systems Division operating budget.

BACKGROUND:

The City Council's 2004-2005 Work Plan includes a review of the City's website and the consideration of web casting City Council meetings. In September 2004, when Council last discussed this issue, staff was directed to implement streaming video of Council meetings as soon as possible, in advance of any planned changes to the City's website.

DISCUSSION:

We are pleased to announce the launch of the City's first streaming video application. Beginning tonight, all City Council meetings¹ will be broadcast over the Internet for viewing anywhere Internet access is available. This will allow viewers who either do not subscribe to cable in Manhattan Beach, or who live outside the area, to watch the Council meetings. In addition, Planning Commission meetings will also be broadcast live over the Internet. During off hours we will be re-broadcasting the cable feed from channel 8, which offers such programs as Beach Beat and Manhattan Life.

Viewers wishing to access the City's new streaming video service may logon using the link from the City's Home Page at www.citymb.info and clicking on "Manhattan Beach Streaming Video" which can be found under "What's New" in the left column or under "E-Gov Services" located in the center of the Home Page below the main graphic. Users must have media player software such as Microsoft Windows Media Player™ or Real Player™ in order to view the broadcasts.

¹ Includes meetings held in the Council Chambers, or those broadcast over channel 8