

# South Bay Cities Council of Governments

April 12, 2021

TO: SBCCOG Steering Committee

FROM: Jacki Bacharach, SBCCOG Executive Director

SUBJECT: Los Angeles Region Imagery Acquisition Consortium (LARIAC) Membership for SBCCOG Cities

## **Adherence to Strategic Plan:**

*Goal D: Organizational Stability.* Be a high performing organization with a clear path to long-term financial health, staffing continuity, and sustained board commitment.

## **PROPOSAL**

Los Angeles Region Imagery Acquisition Consortium (LARIAC) has offered the cities of the SBCCOG, other than Los Angeles, the opportunity to join the consortium through the SBCCOG at a savings to each city of 20% of what they would pay by joining separately. Their current offer came to the SBCCOG and calls for 100% city participation to receive the 20% savings. In order to realize savings, this decision has to be made in April 2021 before their next invoices go out.

## **BACKGROUND**

Los Angeles Region Imagery Acquisition Consortium (LARIAC) is collaborative program provided by the County of Los Angeles, offering digital aerial imagery data for individual member's jurisdiction as well as access to the geographic footprint for the entire region. This data capture is representative of both past and present, allowing for historical comparison. Additionally, LARIAC hosts regular program meetings, user group discussions, staff training, and various workshops for its members. The digital aerial imagery data is used by city departments (e.g. planning and public works) to make informed decisions and conduct analysis in conjunction with Geographic Information Systems (GIS) software and other applications without having to expend staff resources in the field. LARIAC membership facilitates collaboration with regional open data portals from the County of Los Angeles and Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) while providing analytical data used by cities to update General Plans and forecast climate adaptation planning. Attached (see pages 10 – 12) is an example of a relevant use case by the City of Hermosa Beach. LARIAC is also exploring the addition of street-level imagery data available to its members that can be used for property assessment and urban planning, which was recently piloted by the County of Los Angeles' Department of Public Works.

LARIAC began in 2006 and conducts imagery capture every 3 years, which is the length of the membership cycle (based on calendar year). Currently, members include 52 cities, 27 County of Los Angeles departments, 16 agencies, and 7 educational institutions. Regarding SBCCOG member cities, 8 cities with several participating departments, (not including the City of Los Angeles, which has a unique membership,) are members while 7 are not (details to be broken down in table on below).

## **PROPOSED MEMBERSHIP**

Membership dues are individually determined based on factors weighing geography and population size and cover a 3-year program cycle. LARIAC is able to provide these rates based on economies of scale and is looking for opportunities to leverage this model to increase

membership. As a result, County of Los Angeles is offering SBCCOG the opportunity to join as a member on behalf of its member cities. This membership would aggregate the individual cities' membership dues into one payment processed through SBCCOG at a 20% cost savings. See table below for the difference between individual city memberships compared to SBCCOG membership. Additionally, SBCCOG reached out to City Managers to determine their interest. Responses from cities that replied are noted below:

| <b>Current LARIAC Members</b>                   | <b>Current LARIAC Dues (2020 - 2022)</b>  | <b>SBCCOG LARIAC Membership Dues</b> | <b>Net Savings</b> | <b>Interested?</b> |
|---|---|--------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| City of El Segundo                              | \$17,024                                  | \$13,619.20                          | \$3,404.80         | Yes                |
| City of Hermosa Beach                           | \$18,816                                  | \$15,052.80                          | \$3,763.20         | Yes                |
| City of Manhattan Beach                         | \$20,608                                  | \$16,486.40                          | \$4,121.60         | Yes                |
| City of Rancho Palos Verdes                     | \$36,190                                  | \$28,952.00                          | \$7,238.00         |                    |
| City of Redondo Beach                           | \$24,192                                  | \$19,353.60                          | \$4,838.40         | Yes                |
| City of Rolling Hills                           | \$16,660                                  | \$13,328.00                          | \$3,332.00         | Yes                |
| City of Torrance                                | \$65,791                                  | \$52,633.19                          | \$13,158.30        | Yes                |
| City of Inglewood                               | \$34,018                                  | \$27,214.03                          | \$6,803.51         | Yes                |
| <b>Non-Members</b>                              | <b>Proposed Dues LARIAC (2020 - 2022)</b> | <b>SBCCOG LARIAC Membership Dues</b> | <b>Net Savings</b> |                    |
| City of Carson                                  | \$48,384                                  | \$38,707.20                          | \$9,676.80         |                    |
| City of Gardena                                 | \$25,983                                  | \$20,786.19                          | \$5,196.55         |                    |
| City of Hawthorne                               | \$26,791                                  | \$21,432.60                          | \$5,358.15         | No                 |
| City of Lawndale                                | \$23,226                                  | \$18,580.80                          | \$4,645.20         | No                 |
| City of Lomita                                  | \$20,580                                  | \$16,464.00                          | \$4,116.00         | Yes                |
| City of Palos Verdes Estates                    | \$15,680                                  | \$12,544.00                          | \$3,136.00         |                    |
| City of Rolling Hills Estates                   | \$18,130                                  | \$14,504.00                          | \$3,626.00         |                    |
| <i>Grand Totals (Members &amp; Non-Members)</i> | <b>\$412,073</b>                          | <b>\$329,658</b>                     | <b>\$82,415</b>    |                    |

It should be noted that current LARIAC members have already paid for half of their membership in the current program cycle and SBCCOG would have to consider how to reimburse its member cities (between LARIAC current members and non-members) equitably.

This unique proposal presents an opportunity for SBCCOG to deliver added value for its member cities. Additionally, LARIAC membership dues will increase after 2022 by 9%, which highlights the long-term savings potential that SBCCOG's membership could offer its member cities.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Since current responses show that we will not get 100% of our cities to join, staff will be contacting LARIAC to determine if we can a lesser discount if we coordinate the memberships. A report will be given at the meeting on what we find out with potentially seeking further direction.