

Office of the
Legislative Fiscal Analyst

FY 2001 Budget Recommendations

Joint Appropriations Subcommittee for
Capital Facilities and Administrative Services

Utah Department of Administrative Services
Division of Information Technology Services
Appropriated Items

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1.0 Summary: Division of Information Technology Services (ITS) - Appropriated Items

The Division of Information Technology Services (ITS) essentially operates as an Internal Service Fund (ISF), recovering its cost of operations by billing its user-agencies. However, the Legislature has in the past provided direct appropriations for certain activities such as the collection, integration, and dissemination of spatial information and payment of emergency service telephone fees. Direct appropriations are shown separately in this tab. For a complete picture of programs receiving direct appropriations, see the “ITS Internal Service Fund” tab.

	Analyst FY 2001 Base	Analyst FY 2001 Changes	Analyst FY 2001 Total
Financing			
General Fund	\$391,600		\$391,600
Total	<u>\$391,600</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$391,600</u>
Programs			
Automated Geographic Reference Center	\$376,600		\$376,600
Emergency Services Telephone	\$15,000		\$15,000
Total	<u>\$391,600</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$391,600</u>

2.0 Issues: Information Technology Services (ITS) - Appropriated Items

2.1 AGRC General Fund Subsidy

Since 1993, the Automated Geographic Reference Center has operated as a pseudo internal service fund, with General Fund appropriations augmenting Federal grants, dedicated credits revenue, and transfers from other Internal Service Funds. Beginning in FY 2001, the Analyst recommends that the AGRC study the feasibility of operating entirely on fees-for-service, as detailed in proposed intent language on page 6.

3.0 Programs: Information Technology Services (ITS) – Appropriated Items

3.1 Automated Geographic Reference Center

Recommendation

The Analyst recommends no new General Fund resources for the Automated Geographic Reference Center in FY 2001. The Analyst recognizes the value of accurate geographic information for a vast number of applications. The Analyst thus encourages AGRC to pursue federal funds, increased dedicated credits as authorized by Utah Code 63A-6-202(3)(b), and other innovative financing arrangements to fulfill its mission.

	FY 1999	FY 2000	FY 2001	Est/Analyst
	Actual	Estimated	Analyst	Difference
Financing				
General Fund	\$376,600	\$376,600	\$376,600	
General Fund, One-time	650,000			
Total	<u>\$1,026,600</u>	<u>\$376,600</u>	<u>\$376,600</u>	<u>\$0</u>
Expenditures				
Other Charges/Pass Thru	<u>\$1,026,600</u>	<u>\$376,600</u>	<u>\$376,600</u>	
Total	<u>\$1,026,600</u>	<u>\$376,600</u>	<u>\$376,600</u>	<u>\$0</u>

Purpose

The Automated Geographic Reference Center (AGRC) was formally created as an operating unit of the Division of Information Technology Services (ITS) by the *Recodification of Department of Administrative Services* act (House Bill 88, 1993 General Session, Section 63A-6-202 Utah Code Annotated). It is mandated to provide geographic information system services to State agencies, the federal government, municipalities, and private persons through utilizing a standardized and integrated State Geographic Information Database (SGID). The Center has received a direct appropriation since 1984, but is authorized, through ITS, to set fees for its services.

Geographic information is useful in numerous government applications, including natural resource management, infrastructure development and maintenance, and the establishment of political boundaries. It is also valuable in the private sector for activities such as commercial and residential development, marketing, and delivery/distribution.

A Geographic Information System (GIS) uses computers to integrate like geographic information “horizontally” across large areas – in the case of the AGRC, across the State of Utah. GIS also integrates data “vertically” allowing users to cross-reference multiple sets of data for a given geographic region – for instance, allowing a user to easily identify the roads, hospitals, convenience stores, and elected officials for his or her neighborhood. The integration of geographic information increases its value exponentially.

The AGRC continues to collect and integrate geographic information from numerous sources into a common GIS, the State Geographic Information Database. SGID is available on-line at <http://www.its.state.ut.us/agrc/>.

Intent Language

The Legislature included the following intent language in Item 65 of the *Annual Appropriations Act* (H.B. 1, 1999 General Session):

It is the intent of the Legislature that the Department of Administrative Services Division of Information Technology Services use \$300,000 from operating revenue to fund acquisition and integration activities of the Automated Geographic Reference Center.

In response to the language, revenue generated by the operation of other functions within the Division of Information Technology Services offset costs associated with the AGRC.

In conjunction with the FY 2001 appropriation, the Analyst recommends the following intent language:

It is the intent of the Legislature that the Department of Administrative Services Division of Information Technology Services prepare a plan, including proposed rate increases and potentially impacted customers, that would eliminate General Fund subsidy of the Automated Geographic Reference Center. The Division shall present this plan to the Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst before September 1, 2000.

3.2 Emergency Services Telephone

Recommendation The Analyst recommends \$15,000 for Emergency Services Telephone fees for FY 2001.

	FY 1999	FY 2000	FY 2001	Est/Analyst
Financing	Actual	Estimated	Analyst	Difference
General Fund	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000	
Total	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$0
Expenditures				
Current Expense	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000	
Total	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$0

Purpose The *Emergency Services Telephone Charge* act (Senate Bill 221, 1998 General Session) authorized a charge of 10 cents per month on each switched access line and each revenue producing radio communications access line that is subject to an emergency services telephone charge. The fee is collected to fund 911 access and the Poison Control Center. Appropriations bills in 1998 and 1999 provided \$15,000 directly to ITS to cover this charge for State government entities. However, the charge can now be recovered through ITS telephone rates.

4.0 Additional Information: Division of Information Technology Services – Appropriated Items

4.1 Funding History

	FY 1997	FY 1998	FY 1999	FY 2000	FY 2001
	Actual	Actual	Actual	Estimated	Analyst
Financing					
General Fund	\$376,600	\$521,900	\$391,600	\$391,600	\$391,600
General Fund, One-time	245,300		650,000		
Total	<u>\$621,900</u>	<u>\$521,900</u>	<u>\$1,041,600</u>	<u>\$391,600</u>	<u>\$391,600</u>
% Change		-16.1%	99.6%	-62.4%	0.0%
Programs					
Local Government Radio/Microwave	\$145,300	\$145,300			
Automated Geographic Reference Center	476,600	376,600	1,026,600	376,600	376,600
Emergency Services Telephone			15,000	15,000	15,000
Total	<u>\$621,900</u>	<u>\$521,900</u>	<u>\$1,041,600</u>	<u>\$391,600</u>	<u>\$391,600</u>
Expenditures					
Current Expense		\$145,300	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000
Other Charges/Pass Thru	621,900	376,600	1,026,600	376,600	376,600
Total	<u>\$621,900</u>	<u>\$521,900</u>	<u>\$1,041,600</u>	<u>\$391,600</u>	<u>\$391,600</u>