



September 23, 2020

TO: THE DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF VALENCIA COLLEGE

FROM: SANFORD C. SHUGART
President

RE: AWARD OF ENTERPRISE RESOURCE PROGRAM (ERP) –
CLOUD MIGRATION PROJECT

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act was enacted to provide a variety of financial support opportunities to organizations affected by COVID - 19. As part of this support, Valencia College was awarded \$13.8M to support enhancements to the learning environment via information technology capacity and performance and to cover costs associated with the significant changes in delivery of instruction due to COVID - 19.

The college's ERP system, Banner, provides the College with an integrated system managing information about all people affiliated with Valencia College. This system is required to conduct the business of the college and includes admission, registration, grades, financial aid, student accounts receivable, human resources, payroll, accounting, budgeting, and procurement. The data in Banner is the college's system of record - processing data to and from many other Valencia systems such as Canvas and SAS.

Because of the closure of most college facilities and the adoption of a model of predominately-online instruction due to COVID-19, it has become increasingly important to enhance remote access to Banner for our students, faculty and staff. A major enhancement will be realized by moving from our current practice of maintaining a data center onsite to maintaining a cloud based data center supported by external information technology firms. Following are some of the strengths and opportunities offered by a cloud based approach.

- Information Security – Enhances information security by taking advantage of the security commitment and expertise of Amazon Web Services.
- Strategy/Innovation – Focuses the College on long-term strategic information technology needs and connects data and services using flexible cloud tools and environments resulting in new and innovative processes. It enables our employees/students to work/learn remotely and provide for better student experiences. It also increases speed to launch by reducing procurement and deployment of hardware.
- Cost Reductions – Reduces the need for high cost equipment such as servers, storage hardware and back up hardware and allows the college to grow seamlessly. It improves capacity to handle

demand at high volume times like the first week of the year that impacts student learning. It will also provide operational savings.

- Business Continuity –This initiative will improve reliability against the many uncontrollable events affecting the College such as hurricanes, power outages and internet interruptions. It enhances our protection against physical disasters and eliminates the need for information technology personnel to drive into the campus during high-risk times.

The College conducted numerous discussions with industry experts and colleagues and determined that self-hosting with a cloud service provider was the best solution. Internal review of vendor information for approach, completeness, and reasonableness also involved outside experts to assist in the college's evaluation process. Valencia's information technology staff, in consultation with industry consultants, accumulated the cost estimates for cloud services and storage, licensing, consultant support costs and a variety of other software needed to make this project complete.

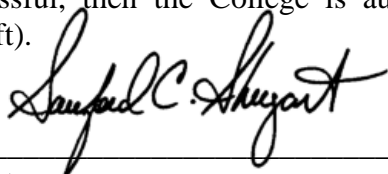
Because of this evaluation process, the following information technology vendors have been identified as most qualified to assist and are recommended to collaborate with the college in this project:

- Oracle Corporation -to provide the required relational database licenses needed to operate Banner in the cloud environment. Estimated spending equals \$363,000.
- Strata Information Group (SIG) - to assist with the specific migration services related to Banner. Estimated spending for SIG totals \$770,000.
- DLT - to provide the licensing and build out of Cloud computing and storage fees using Amazon Web Services. Estimated spending at \$1,005,000.

In addition to the specific vendor costs noted above, the College also will incur costs associated with specialized software, VPN enhancements (Virtual Private Network), enhanced firewalls and integration training that total \$650,000. The College will use federal Institution Stabilization Funds (CARES) to fund the project. While these services are typically exempt from competitive solicitation requirements pursuant to state law, these services will be procured leveraging existing contracts and cooperatives, which conforms to Federal guidelines and requirements.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

The President recommends that the District Board of Trustees of Valencia College approve the spending of \$2,788,000 of CARES funds for the Cloud Migration Project. In addition, the President recommends the selection of Oracle Corporation for database licensing and Strata Information Group for migration services and DLT for licensing and build out of the cloud computing and storage costs using Amazon Web Services. If negotiations with DLT are unsuccessful, then the College is authorized to negotiate with the next prioritized vendor (Carasoft).



President



VALENCIA

Valencia College

Office of Information Technology

Office of Information Technology

ERP Suite Systems Cloud Migration

District Board of Trustees

September 23, 2020



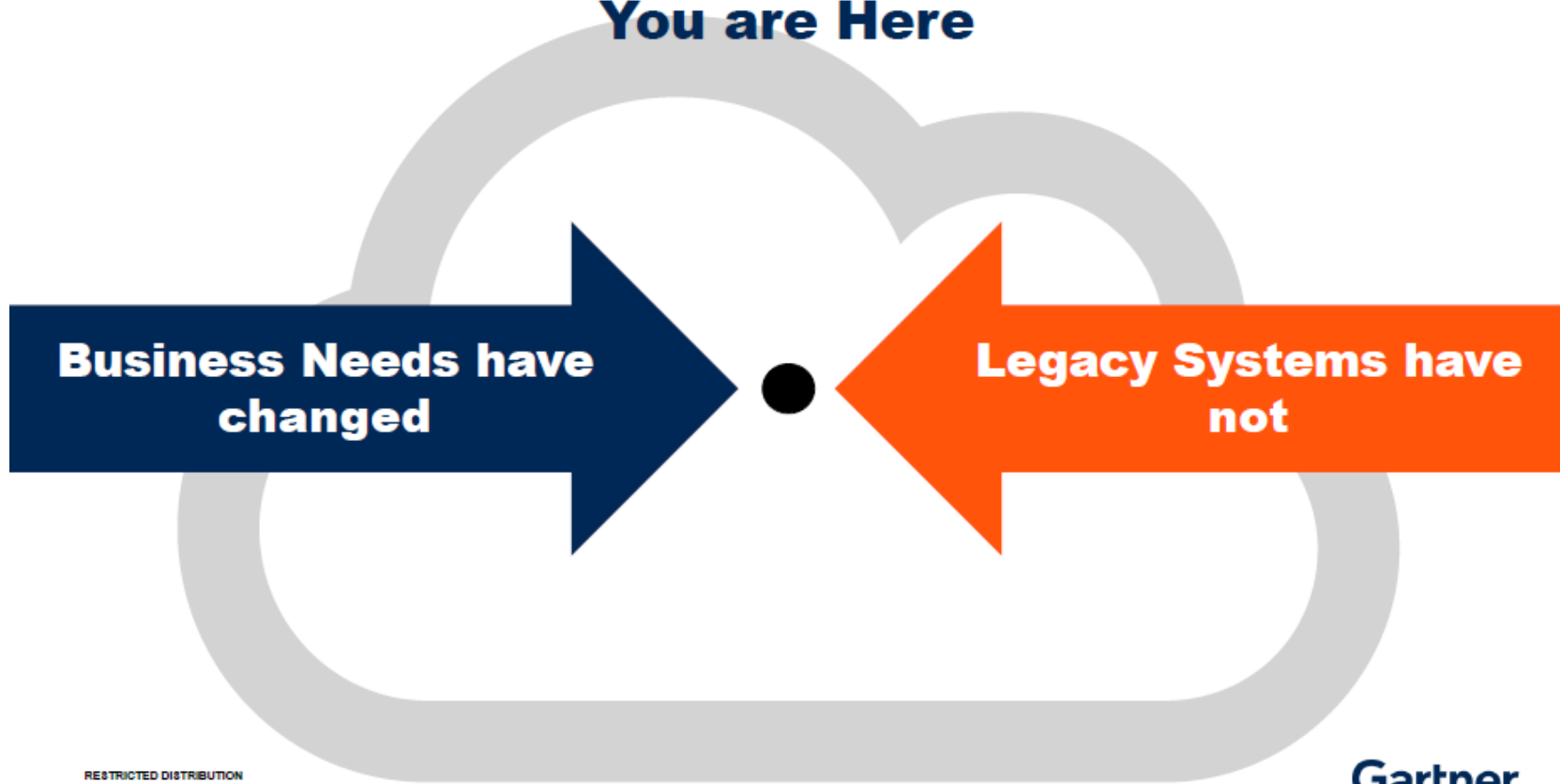
Integration Components

- Banner is our ERP and integrates with or connects to an entire suite of systems leveraged to conduct business of the college
- System of Record
- Thirty eight servers/virtual machines will be migrated:

Appworx	SAS	FAST
APEX	Atlas	Web Servers
- VPN is leveraged to securely connect to Banner



You are Here





WHY MOVE TO THE CLOUD?

**Information
Security**

**Strategy &
Innovation**

**Cost
Efficiency**

**Business
Continuity**



Information Security

- “Cloud is 3 times less penetrable than a private data center” – *Gartner*
- Ability to traverse Valencia’s physical network to gain access to administrative systems is removed
- Enhanced physical security
- Leverage Amazon’s commitment to security



Strategy & Innovation

- Alignment with IT Strategic direction
- Connect data and services using flexible cloud tools and environments to build new and innovative processes and applications more rapidly
- Increase speed to launch initiatives by reducing procurement and deployment of hardware



Cost Efficiency

- Reduction of asset costs (Servers, storage and back up hardware)
- Lower hardware maintenance costs
- Decreased physical data center costs
- Meet volatile demand by being able to scale services up as needed for peak enrollment periods vs. hardware purchases



Business Continuity

- Increased application availability
- Broader geographic distribution
- Move from disaster recovery to business continuity in the event of physical disasters



Thank you!

