

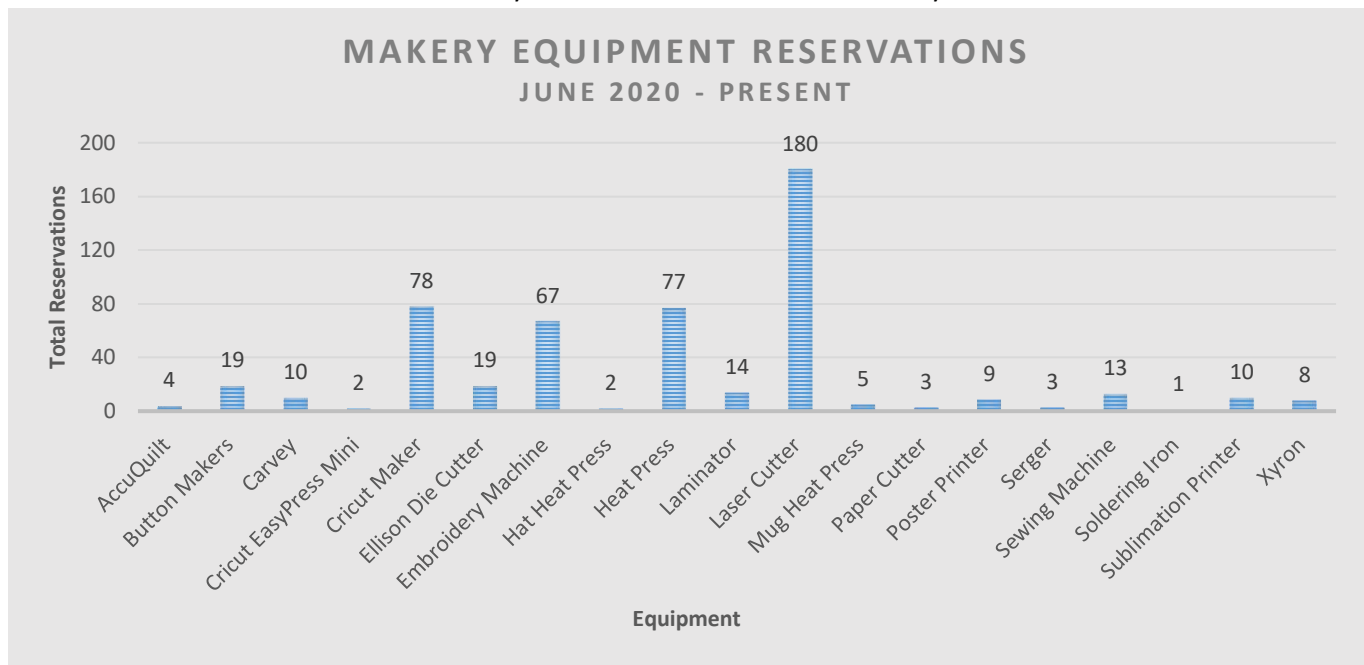
ATTACHMENT I

APPROVAL TO PURCHASE A LASER CUTTER

Please see attached information regarding the purchase of a new laser cutter.

Full Spectrum Laser Cutter

The Full Spectrum laser cutter is the Makery's most popular and in-demand piece of equipment. Since June 2020 it has been reserved more than twice as often as any other item available in the Makery.



Purchased in 2016 it is also one of the oldest pieces of equipment available in the Makery. Due to its age and heavy use, the laser cutter is frequently in a state of disrepair. As a highly technical and specialized piece of equipment, repairs often require assistance from the manufacturer but we have found their support to be unreliable. Support requests are left unanswered for days and the repairs do not last.

For these reasons and more we are proposing the purchase of a new laser cutter, the Epilog Fusion Edge 12.

Proposed Replacement

Epilog is a leading manufacturer of laser cutters. Several nearby public library makerspaces use an Epilog and have described it as “a workhorse” and “the crown jewel of our makerspace.” Epilog lasers are proven to be highly reliable; few libraries have needed to contact them for support. Those libraries that have reached out for support received same-day responses. The Fusion Edge 12 is currently the smallest and most affordable model available. It is also the most appropriate for use in the Makery.

Local Libraries with Epilog Lasers

- Arlington Heights Memorial Library, Epilog Mini 24
- Indian Prairie Public Library, Epilog Fusion Edge 12
- Indian Trails Public Library District, Epilog Mini 24
- Skokie Public Library, Epilog Mini 24
- Winnetka Public Library, Epilog Mini 24

The Fusion Edge 12 also features several technological upgrades which were previously unavailable. These include:

- Intuitive touchscreen user interface for simpler operation
- IRIS Camera Positioning system for easy and accurate artwork placement, removes guesswork
- Faster cutting and engraving speeds
- A magnetic grid for keeping materials in place

- Improved auto focus and manual focus
- Joystick for better control and precision

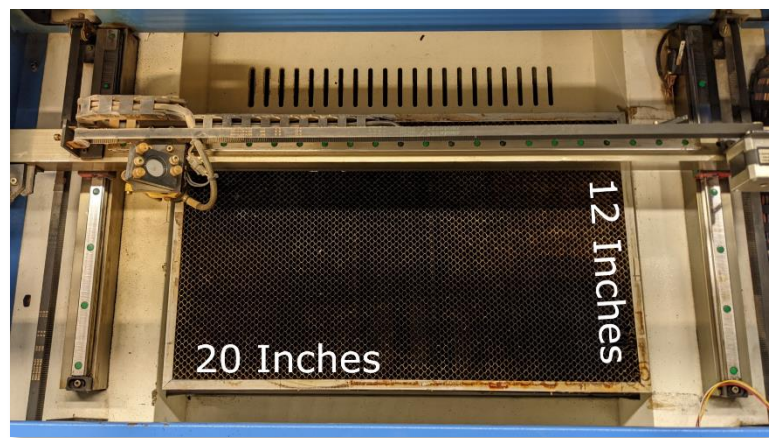
With the Fusion Edge 12, patrons can cut and engrave on all the same materials as on the current laser cutter. Its higher reliability and more advanced technology will give us more opportunities to say “yes” to our patrons. With a simpler user interface, both patrons and staff will enjoy an overall easier experience.

Estimated Cost of Equipment

Epilog Fusion Edge 12 50-Watt Laser System	\$18,500
Rim Style Rotary Attachment	\$1,495
EngraveLab PhotoLaser Plus Software	\$395
Air Assist Pump	\$300
Total	\$20,690

Comparison

Full Spectrum (Current)	
Work Area	20" x 12" x 10"
Wattage	45 watts
Machine Size	35.5" x 27.5" x 36.75"
User Interface	2" LCD Display & Buttons



Work Area



User Interface



Machine Size

Fusion Edge 12 (Proposed)	
Work Area	24" x 12" x 7"
Wattage	50 watts
Machine Size	39.5" x 26.5" x 17.9"
User Interface	7" Touch Screen & Joystick



Work Area



User Interface



Machine Size