



Agenda Item #: _____

Staff Report

City of Manhattan Beach

TO: Honorable Mayor Montgomery and Members of the City Council

THROUGH: Geoff Dolan, City Manager

FROM: Bruce Moe, Finance Director
Rod Uyeda, Police Chief
Gwen Eng, General Services Manager
Andrew Harrod, Police Lieutenant

DATE: October 21, 2008

SUBJECT: Consideration of the Purchase of Five Police Patrol Cars from Fairview Ford (\$150,473.36) and Award of Contract to South Bay Regional Public Communications Authority to Equip the Vehicles (\$69,808.35)

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the City Council: a) award RFB #754-09 to Fairview Ford in the amount of \$150,473.36 for the purchase of five Police patrol cars, b) waive formal bidding per Municipal Code Section 2.36.140 (waivers), c) award an order to South Bay Regional Public Communications Authority for the outfitting of five Police patrol cars in the amount of \$69,808.35, and d) approve a supplemental appropriation of \$45,300 from the Fleet Management Fund.

FISCAL IMPLICATION:

Funds totaling \$203,233 are budgeted in the FY 2008-2009 Fleet Management Fund for the purchase and equipping of four patrol vehicles. The total cost to purchase and outfit the vehicles with the customary emergency equipment (cages, light bars, racks, etc.) and graphics is expected to be within the budgeted amount.

A fifth patrol vehicle (K-9 unit #177) was involved in a traffic accident and replacement of this vehicle was unanticipated in the current fiscal year. Therefore, the funds required to purchase a replacement vehicle and the usual K-9 patrol car equipment, needs to be appropriated from the Fleet Management Fund in the amount of \$45,300.

DISCUSSION:

Patrol Cars

The Police Department operates a fleet of 20 patrol cars that are used on a 24-hour basis, 7 days per week. Patrol cars need to be replaced periodically to provide the Police Department and community with reliable emergency response vehicles. During the FY 2008-2009 Budget process, Council authorized the routine replacement of four patrol cars. The new vehicles (2009 Ford Police Interceptors) will replace vehicles that have approximately 90,000 accumulated miles. Due

to their age and condition, drive trains are failing and engine electronic problems are occurring. Major repairs have been deferred in anticipation of replacement. If these vehicles are not replaced, additional work on major components such as transmissions will need to be performed.

The fifth vehicle, a K-9 patrol car, was involved in a traffic collision and the damage is so extensive that the car is considered a total loss. This has resulted in a shortage of patrol vehicles within the Police Department and the need to purchase a replacement. Potential cost recovery is unknown; however, the vehicle is fully depreciated, and the funds are available for the replacement. This vehicle is not operational and is currently at the City Garage awaiting disposition. An appropriation of \$45,300 from the Fleet Management Fund is needed to purchase and outfit this vehicle.

Where possible and practical, we have specified “green” vehicles in keeping with our efforts to be more environmentally-friendly. Staff looked for alternate fuel options for these vehicles but options are limited. For example, CNG (compressed natural gas) is not practical because the CNG fuel tank occupies ½ of the available trunk space. This lessens the patrol car’s equipment capacity, making this option impractical. While there are no reasonable alternative fuel vehicles for this purpose, staff will continue to evaluate our options for future purchases.

Bid Recaps

Staff sent bid requests to nine Police vehicle vendors and four responses were received. The comparison below shows the aggregate price, including sales tax, discounts, and other fees.

<u>Bidder</u>	<u>Patrol Cars</u>
1. Fairview Ford	\$150,473.36
2. Theodore Robins Ford	\$150,846.66
3. Raceway Fleet	\$153,147.14
4. Wondries Ford	\$153,363.48

Based on these bids, staff recommends awarding to the lowest bidder, Fairview Ford, for the purchase of five patrol cars, in the amount of \$150,473.36. If this purchase is approved, the existing units will be retired and sent to auction. In addition, staff will continue to pursue insurance recovery from the traffic collision. The new vehicles will arrive in approximately 90-120 days.

Vehicle Equipment

The City is a member agency of the South Bay Regional Public Communications Authority (RCC). In addition to providing 9-1-1 emergency dispatching, they also outfit emergency vehicles with the customary equipment. As a member agency, no labor is charged and parts are at cost. Consequently, the cost of having RCC perform service is less expensive than outside contractors.

Another benefit to using RCC is that their staff stays current with new innovations that occur in the industry and products are field tested before a recommendation is made. The standard installation of components benefits our officers as they move from one car to the next since the equipment is always in the same location. It also aids our fleet maintenance staff with troubleshooting since each vehicle is set up exactly the same. Finally, RCC’s staff maintains and repairs this equipment until it is retired, performs on-site service, and keeps backup components, which lessens vehicle downtime.

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Staff recommends that Council waive formal bidding and award an order to RCC to outfit the five patrol cars in the amount of \$69,808.35. The equipment will be installed when the ordered units arrive.

cc: Jim Arndt