

## Agenda Report

TO: CITY COUNCIL

MAY 5, 2008

FROM: CITY MANAGER

**SUBJECT:** AUTHORIZATION TO PURCHASE THE POLICE DEPARTMENTS IN-CAR VIDEO AND DIGITAL EVIDENCE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

## RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the City Council:

 Authorize a purchase order in the amount of \$388,591.56 to International Police Technologies, Inc. for in-car video systems to be installed in 52 police cars. Competitive bidding is not required pursuant to City Charter section 1002(H), contracts with other governmental entities or their Contractor's for labor, material, supplies or services.

## BACKGROUND

Between 2004 and 2006, the City of Pasadena spent \$590,911 defending and settling lawsuits against police officers. Although it is difficult to predict incidents that bring about litigation, it is prudent to invest in technology that may provide direct evidence in support of the action taken by police officers.

Pasadena police officers conduct approximately 100,000 pedestrian and vehicle stops each year. While most of these contacts are routine and do not result in community complaints or litigation, some contacts with the public evolve into physical altercations and/or allegations of wrong doing by employees that may be easily dismissed or proven with the use of an in-car video system. The purchase of such technology has the potential to reduce the current level of expenditures for litigation and settlements by providing factual video evidence. Additionally, this technology would increase the level of trust between the police and community members.

Funding for this project was approved by the City Council in the FY 07-08 budget.

International Police Technologies, Inc. has offered to extend the pricing in the Columbus Ohio contract to the City of Pasadena. The Pasadena Police Department has recently completed a 90 day trial of video equipment supplied by three vendors, one of which was International Police Technologies Incorporated. This product was found to be satisfactory. The City of Columbus Ohio recently completed a competitive bidding process and established a buying agreement with International Police Technology Inc., to purchase in-car video equipment.

Purchasing the requested in-car video equipment systems using the Columbus Ohio contract would be in the City's best interest. It will expedite the delivery of the equipment, thus reducing the time needed to place the systems into service.

## FISCAL IMPACT

Sufficient funding is available in the 2006 Equipment Lease Line of Credit Financing Program to cover the cost of purchasing the in-car video equipment. The debt service to repay the financing has been budgeted in the Police Department's fiscal year 2008 operating budget.

Respectfully submitted,

BERNARD K. MELEKIAN City Manager

Prepared by:

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Approved

CHRISTOPHER O. VICINO Acting Chief of Police