

# Agenda Report

November 19, 2012

**TO:** Honorable Mayor and City Council

**FROM:** Fire Department

**SUBJECT:** AUTHORIZE ISSUANCE OF A PURCHASE ORDER CONTRACT TO SENSOR TECHNOLOGY ENGINEERING, INCORPORATED FOR THE PURCHASE OF TWO RAD PACK MAX RADIATION DETECTION SYSTEMS IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$91,350.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Find that the purchase of radiation detection equipment is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") pursuant to State Public Resources Code Section 21080(b)(4) [specific actions necessary to prevent or mitigate an emergency]; and
2. Accept the bid dated October 9, 2012, submitted by Sensor Technology Engineering, Incorporated in response to the specification for the purchase of two radiation detection backpacks;
3. Authorize the issuance of a Purchase Order Contract to Sensor Technology Engineering, Incorporated, in an amount not to exceed \$91,350.

**BACKGROUND:**

The threat of terrorist activity directed against large gatherings of individuals remains a potential Pasadena must consider. One such threat is the use of devices containing radioactive materials, either in a bomb or dispersal device. While there are not now, nor have there been, any credible specific threats against facilities within Pasadena, it is only prudent that the City take reasonable steps to detect and deter such potential activities.

The City has purchased radiation detection equipment which is used in concert with equipment from other agencies. The Fire Department has \$116,649 in Homeland Security grant funds which will expire by January 2013 if unused. The Fire Department proposes to use \$91,350 of those funds for the purchase of additional radiation detection equipment to support the City's counterterrorism efforts. The proposed

purchase is a reasonable step to ensure the City can support special events, even if the City's partner agencies are committed to other events at the same time. The balance of the funds will be used to purchase additional radiation detection equipment that will not require specific City Council approval following established purchasing policies and practices.

Bid specifications were developed based on a backpack design proven through staff experience and study to have adequate sensitivity to search for and localize illicit radioactive materials, especially Special Nuclear Materials. Other designs were invited to submit bids provided they included documentation supporting that their alternative design would provide equivalent or greater sensitivity. Added functions of an alternative radiation detection backpack design cannot substitute for the required sensitivity (e.g. an added function to identify the radioactive material only works once the material is actually found and localized).

On October 4, 2012, a Notice Inviting Bids for "Two (2) Radiation Detection Backpack Systems" was advertised in the Pasadena Journal, and posted online through the City's website. There are currently three companies currently manufacturing radiation detection backpack systems: Berkeley Nucleonics; Sensor Technology Engineering; and, Thermo Scientific. Each manufacturer was requested to register to receive bid notices from the City. Additionally, they were each express mailed and emailed the bid package. One bid from Sensor Technology Engineering, Incorporated, in the amount of \$91,350 was received by the bid opening on October 16, 2012; no other bids were received.

Sensor Technology Engineering, Incorporated is the sole responsive bidder and complies in all respects with the requirements of the Specification. Staff recommends that the City Council award a Purchase Order Contract on that basis.

**COUNCIL POLICY CONSIDERATION:**

This action directly supports the City Council's goals to ensure public safety and to maintain public facilities and infrastructure by increasing the ability of the City to detect and deter potential terrorist activity against citizens and public facilities.

**ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS:**

The California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA"), pursuant to State Public Resources Code Section 21080(b)(4), explicitly makes CEQA not applicable to, "specific actions necessary to prevent or mitigate an emergency." As the above actions are taken to prevent and mitigate an emergency (terrorist activity), CEQA does not apply.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

The cost of this action will be \$91,350 [8105-230-361000-91154]. All of this cost will be reimbursed from Homeland Security grant funds currently appropriated to the Fire Department [6365-230-361000-91154].

Respectfully submitted,

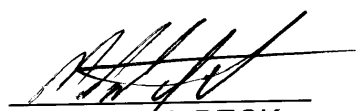


CALVIN E. WELLS  
Fire Chief

Prepared by:

  
James C. Weckerle  
Hazardous Materials Specialist

Approved by:

  
MICHAEL J. BECK  
City Manager

**Disclosure Pursuant to the  
City of Pasadena Taxpayer Protection Amendment  
Pasadena City Charter, Article XVII**

Contractor/Organization hereby discloses its trustees, directors, partners, officers, and those with more than 10% equity, participation, or revenue interest in Contractor/Organization, as follows:

*(If printing, please print legibly. Use additional sheets as necessary.)*

1. Contractor/Organization Name:  
SENSOR TECHNOLOGY ENGINEERING, INC.

2. Type of Entity:  
 non-government     nonprofit 501(c)(3), (4), or (6)

3. Name(s) of trustees, directors, partners, officers of Contractor/Organization:  
JOHN L. WARREN  
KENNETH G. VADNAIS

4. Names of those with more than a 10% equity, participation or revenue interest in Contractor/Organization:  
JOHN L. WARREN  
KENNETH G. VADNAIS

Prepared by: JOHN L. WARREN

Title: PRESIDENT

Phone: (805) 964-9507

Date: 11/8/2012

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