



Agenda Report

September 16, 2019

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council

FROM: Police Department

SUBJECT: PURCHASE ORDER CONTRACT TO MERIDIAN RAPID DEFENSE GROUP, LLC FOR ANTI-TERRORISM VEHICLE BARRIER RENTAL ALONG THE TOURNAMENT OF ROSES PARADE ROUTE FOR A NOT-TO-EXCEED AMOUNT OF \$550,000

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Find that the project proposed herein is exempt under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Section 15061 (b)(3), the general rule that CEQA applies only to projects which have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment;
2. Authorize a purchase order contract with Meridian Rapid Defense Group, LLC (DBA Meridian Rental Group) for Anti-Terrorism Vehicle Barriers in an amount not to exceed \$110,000. Competitive Bidding is not required pursuant to City Charter Section 1002(C) contracts for labor, material, supplies, or services available from only one vendor.
3. Authorize the City Manager to extend the purchase order up to four additional one year terms in the annual amount of \$110,000 for a total of \$550,000 for five years.

BACKGROUND:

The Tournament of Roses parade public safety plan implements the closure of approximately 65 street intersections and 40 private business driveway aprons. The closure of streets crossing the parade route (with the exception of emergency access streets) will restrict general vehicular traffic on the parade route and provide a safer environment for the public attending the parade. The use of Anti-Terrorism Vehicle Barriers will create a visible and physical barrier for vehicles attempting to access the parade route after the closure at 11:00 p.m. the evening prior to the parade. To achieve this, the City needs to contract with a reliable and responsible traffic control company for the rental and deployment of barricades and traffic control devices for parade operations.

Meridian Rapid Defense Group, LLC is the sole manufacturer of the U.S. and internationally patented and trademarked Archer 1200 Anti-Terrorism Vehicle Barrier. As well as the attendant supporting technologies and products which include the Archer Field Tow Bar and Archer Hauler. The Archer 1200 Barriers, Field Tow Bar and Hauler have been approved and designated by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) under the Safety Act as Qualified Anti-Terrorism Technology (QATT). The Act, provides legal liability protections to Meridian, its customers and end users of the designated QATT products. The Archer vehicle barriers will replace the water barriers currently deployed during New Year's operations. Water barriers have been the primary form of protection at the Rose Parade over the past three years used by the Pasadena Police Department to guard against vehicle assaults. The Archer barriers provide more protection to floats, spectators, City and Tournament of Roses employees involved with the Rose Parade. Online research has been conducted in an attempt to find similar barriers that provide the mobility, vehicle stopping power and the DHS designation under the Safety Act as a Qualified Anti-Terrorism Technology protection. No other companies were found that provide a device that meets these qualifications. Vehicle mitigation strategies are a necessity as vehicle assaults are one of the primary forms of attack at large events and gatherings by Home Grown Violent Extremists (HGVE) and/or terrorists. It is in the city's best interest to award the purchase order to Meridian Rapid defense as the barriers will mitigate any potential HGVE attacks during this important event.

Upon the conclusion of the first year of this purchase order, the Police Department Command Staff will review the effectiveness of the use of the Anti-Terrorism Vehicle Barriers along the entire parade route; will assess Meridian's ability to secure the route; will assess the ease of set-up and breakdown and Meridian's ability to restrict general vehicular traffic on the parade route while still allowing emergency response vehicles to access the route. At that time, Police Department Command Staff may request the City Manager to exercise the additional one year extensions. This process will be followed each year prior to a recommendation to the City Manager to exercise the additional four one year extensions.

COUNCIL POLICY CONSIDERATION:

The proposed action is consistent with the City Council's Strategic Plan Goals to ensure public safety and maintain fiscal responsibility and stability.


ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS:

The proposed contract has been determined to be exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3), the general rule that CEQA applies only to projects which have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. Where it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment, the activity is not subject to CEQA. Such is the case with the proposed purchase order with a traffic services company for Anti-Terrorism Vehicle Barriers along the Rose Parade route. No physical changes to the environment will result from the proposed contract authorization.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact as these costs for the services are charged to the New Year's Day Fund (Fund 106).

Respectfully submitted,



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Approved by:



STEVE MERMELL
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