

Agenda Report

TO:

CITY COUNCIL

DATE:

March 2, 1998

FROM:

CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT:

PURCHASE OF ONE 70-FOOT AERIAL DEVICE

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the City Council authorize the Purchasing Administrator to issue a purchase order to Altec Industries, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$76,141.97 for the purchase of one (1) Altec Model AM-900P Aerial Device to replace equipment #03163. The proposed purchase is exempt from competitive bidding pursuant to City Charter section 1002(H), contracts with other governmental entities or their contractors for labor, material, supplies or services.

It is also recommended that the City Council grant this contract a partial exemption (vendor outreach only) from the Affirmative Action in Contracting Ordinance pursuant to P.M.C. 4.09.060(C) contracts for which the City's bests' interests are served.

BACKGROUND

The City of Pasadena presently uses aerial trucks to perform tree trimming, light replacement for baseball diamonds, pruning tree limbs away from power lines and other functions that require an intermediate reach (70 foot working height) aerial device. Aerial trucks provide customized mobile work stations that contain all the tools and equipment necessary to perform these operations safely and efficiently.

The aerial truck currently owned by the City is out of service, due to its failure to pass the annual inspection required by the American National Standards Institute. ANSI identified it as not being safe for operation. The ANSI inspectors recommended a complete overhaul of the lift assembly. This is an intensive repair estimated to cost approximately \$35,000. Additionally, because of the age of the vehicle (21 years) all replacement parts will need to be modified since original parts are no longer available. This makes routine maintenance very expensive and not cost effective. The useful lifecycle of this vehicle is defined at 10 years.

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Without the use of this aerial truck, the tree trimming unit of Parks and Natural Resources has been unable to trim many of the cities older, taller Eucalyptus, Oak, and Palm trees creating a safety hazard caused by seasonal storms. The loss of this vehicle has created a backlog between 200 and 300 requests for tree pruning service. It has also significantly limited light replacement in the City's parks, which cover approximately 500 lights annually.

Currently, the City is able to meet some if its high priority demands by leasing a truck when needed. Because of the scarcity of these type vehicles in Southern California, the cost is typically \$1,000 per day with up to one month of lead time required to secure a rental.

In May of 1997, the City of Santa Clara undertook a competitive bidding process for the purchase of one (1) aerial truck. As a result of the bid process, San Francisco awarded a contract to Altec Industries, Inc. Altec Industries has offered to extend this 1997 bid price to the City of Pasadena. Purchasing the requested aerial truck from Altec would be in the City's best interests for several reasons. Were the City to undertake its own bid process, the time involved in preparing the necessary bid documents and obtaining the required approvals would most likely result in the City purchasing at 1998 or even 1999 model year prices, as well as incurring associated staff costs. The time necessary to prepare bid specifications, review proposals and award a competitive bid would add at least three months to the process and delay the delivery of a new vehicle until the end of the calendar year.

FISCAL IMPACT

This equipment is a budgeted replacement and funds in the amount of \$76,141.97 are available for use in the Equipment Replacement Fund, account #766300.

Respectfully submitted,

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City Manager

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