

# Agenda Report

**TO:** CITY COUNCIL

**Date:** March 10, 2003

**FROM:** CITY MANAGER

**SUBJECT:** AUTHORIZATION TO ISSUE A PURCHASE ORDER FOR A NOT TO EXCEED AMOUNT OF \$183,394.00 TO PURCHASE 30 NEW RADIO DISPATCH MOBILE DATA UNITS TO REPLACE EXISTING MOBILE DATA TERMINALS.

## RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that City Council authorize the Purchasing Administrator to issue a Purchase Order for a not to exceed amount of \$183,394.00 to Motorola Inc. for the purchase of 30 new radio dispatch mobile data units. 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.

## BACKGROUND

The Fire Department must replace 30 mobile data terminal units as part of the Verdugo Fire Communications System's (VFCS) mobile data system replacement concurrent with all cities under the tri-city agreement. The purpose of the mobile data terminal (MDT) is to provide a data communications link between the dispatch center and emergency field units and between units in the field. Glendale and Burbank are both purchasing their complete mobile data units from Motorola Inc. and piggybacking on the City of Los Angeles' purchase of the same units. That negotiated bid includes an additional \$500 per unit discount, if purchased before March 24, 2003. Pasadena Fire Department is requesting authorization to do the same. In addition to a cost advantage, Pasadena benefits from the sharing of parts and labor among the tri-city agencies.


The Motorola mobile data units interfaces best with the upgraded Motorola-Verdugo new dispatching data communication system, which will be in place by July 1, 2003. The replacement of the MDTs is the first phase of the system replacement. Several other factors add value to purchasing the Motorola units. After evaluating potential vendors, Motorola Inc. was identified as the vendor with the most reliable MDT, the most comprehensive maintenance, technical, and engineering support structure and for the potential for interconnection with other cities in Los Angeles County, consistent with the current interoperability initiative being explored by the Interagency Communications

Interoperability System (ICIS) interim joint powers authority. Additionally, given the long life expectancy of mobile data equipment (6-10 years), it is essential to have confidence the manufacturer will remain in business and be able to support equipment for the maximum useful life.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

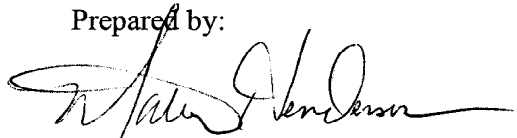
Funds are available under Capital Improvement Project 301-363000-71114 for this purpose.

Respectfully submitted,




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Approved by:



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