

Agenda Report

TO: CITY COUNCIL
THROUGH: FINANCE COMMITTEE

DATE: December 12, 2005

FROM: CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: PURCHASE OF EMERGENCY RADIO COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT AND A HIGH SPEED COPIER FROM THE PROCEEDS OF EQUIPMENT LEASE FINANCING.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Authorize the issuance of a purchase order contract to Motorola, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$1,950,000 for the purchase of radio communications equipment for the Fire Department;
2. Authorize the issuance of a purchase order to Canon USA, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$295,670 for the purchase of one Canon Image Runner Pro 125 high speed photo copier for the Department of Finance, Print Shop;

Competitive bidding is not required for either of these transactions pursuant to City Charter section 1002(H), contracts with other governmental entities or their contractors for labor, material, supplies or services

3. Approve a journal voucher appropriating \$1,950,000 in proceeds from the 2005 Equipment Lease Financing to account number 101-952134-91200 and \$295,670 to account number 508-325300-8504.

BACKGROUND

On March 14, 2005 the City Council authorized an equipment lease financing agreement with Community Bank in an amount not to exceed \$6.5 million. The purpose of this financing is to enable the City to procure new equipment, in most cases replacing old, inefficient equipment, in a financially attractive manner. The

term of the lease financing is six years at a tax exempt rate of 3.15% with interest only payments for the first 12 months.

Although a number of items to be procured by way of lease financing have been identified, at this time staff is prepared to move forward on two items; the replacement of emergency communications equipment for the Fire Department and the purchase of a new high speed copier for the City's Print Shop. The following are justifications for each purchase. Staff will return to Council for necessary approvals for other purchases to be made from the proceeds of the equipment lease financing once the details of those transactions are determined.

Emergency Communications Equipment

The Fire Department, as a result of new FCC regulations, needs to upgrade its emergency communications equipment to communicate with local and mutual aid agencies that have already gone to narrow-band and/or digital technology. Glendale and Burbank have already migrated to digital/trunked technology. Radio communications equipment with narrow-band capabilities can communicate with wide-band communications equipment, as narrow-band technology has the capabilities to be programmed on narrow and wide band frequencies. However, wide-band radios are unable to communicate with narrow-band radios without causing interference and signal distortion. This issue can affect firefighter safety during emergency operations, and addresses interoperability issues between other fire departments. The new radios will allow us to remain interoperable with the Pasadena Police Department's communications equipment.

Five years ago many agencies began converting to narrow-band requirements because of frequency congestion in Los Angeles County, and in response to the aforementioned new Federal Communication Commission (FCC) ruling. These agencies include: Glendale, Burbank, Arcadia, Sierra Madre, San Marino, Monterey Park, Monrovia, San Gabriel, Los Angeles City, Montebello, Culver City, and Beverly Hills, as well as other fire departments within Los Angeles County.

State-wide, Pasadena Fire is unable to communicate on several U. S. Forest Service and State channels, as well as new Federal interoperability channels due to radio equipment incompatibility. The State and Federal governments have already transitioned to narrow-band capable radio equipment; on the State side, CDF & Fire Scope are on narrow-band frequencies and on the Federal side, the U.S. Forestry, Department of Interior and Bureau of Land Management are on narrow-band frequencies.

In addition, 50% of the Fire Department's radios are over 10 years old. In accordance with industry standards, due to reliability and availability of

replacement parts the typical life cycle for emergency communications equipment is between seven and 10 years.

Locally, four of the current 12 channels in the Verdugo Communication Dispatch System have also gone to narrow-band technology. The uniform conversion to narrow-band technology is a firefighter safety issue, as communication problems will occur on emergency incidents due to interference produced by wide-band radios being operated on narrow-band channels. Wide band radios operating on narrow band channels cause interference and signal distortion.

The County of Los Angeles currently has a Master Purchase Agreement with Motorola Inc. for the purchase of radios, which is valid through June 30, 2007. Motorola Inc. has offered to extend the same pricing and discount to the City of Pasadena for the purchase of emergency communications equipment, as was provided to the County of Los Angeles under the County's Master Purchase Agreement.

High Speed Copier

The Department of Finance, Printing Services section provides reprographic and printing services to city departments. The section's main production copier is over six years old. The machine, which utilizes older analog technology, has reached the end of its useful life and has been subject to an increasing amount of down time, thus making it difficult to maintain the level of service required by city departments, particularly in regard to the timely reproduction of City Council agenda packets.

Staff recommends replacing this machine. The proposed unit, Canon Image Runner Pro 125, utilizes digital technology and online finishing. Consequently, much of the hand work necessary to collate documents such as the agenda package would be automated and completed more timely. Currently, staff must often work overtime to prepare the packets.

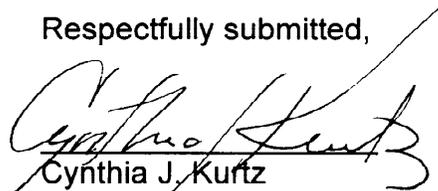
The proposed machine is capable of being connected to the City's network thereby enabling departments to submit files electronically from remote locations.

The County of Los Angeles recently completed a competitive bidding process and established a buying agreement (Contract number 14383) with Cannon USA to purchase copier equipment. Cannon USA has offered to extend the pricing in the County's contract, along with promotional discounts totaling \$58,000 in additional savings, to the City of Pasadena.

FISCAL IMPACT

Funds are available from the proceeds of the 2005 Equipment Lease Financing. This action will increase appropriations to the Printing Services Fund by \$295,670 and to the General Fund Fire Department by \$1,950,000.

Respectfully submitted,

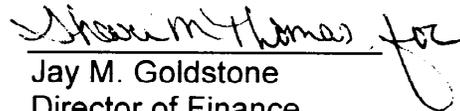

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City of Pasadena Taxpayer Protection Amendment of 2000
Pasadena City Charter, Article XVII**

Contractor/Organization hereby discloses its trustees, directors, partners, officers, and those with more than a 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:

2. Name(s) of trustees, directors, partners, officers of Contractor/Organization:

SEG ATTACHED

3. Names of those with more than a 10% equity, participation or revenue interest in Contractor/Organization:

N/A

Prepared by: Rick Garcia

Title: GOVERNMENT ACCOUNT manager

Date: 12/7/05

For office use only: Contract/Transaction No. _____ If not a contract, type of transaction: _____



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