

# Agenda Report

June 6, 2016

**TO:** Honorable Mayor and City Council

**FROM:** Police Department

SUBJECT: AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO A PURCHASE ORDER CONTRACT WITH PROFORCE FOR 150 REPLACEMENT TASERS (CONDUCTIVE ENERGY WEAPONS)

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the City Council:

- 1. Find the proposed action is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3), the General Rule that CEQA only applies to projects that may have an effect on the environment.
- Authorize the issuance of a purchase order contract to ProForce for the replacement purchase of 150 Tasers, holsters and batteries in an amount not to exceed \$154,250. Competitive bidding is not required pursuant to City Charter Section 1002(C), contracts for labor, materials, supplies or services available from only one vendor.
- 3. It is further recommended that the City Council grant the proposed contract an exemption from the Competitive Selection process pursuant to Pasadena Municipal Code Section 4.08.049(B), contracts for which the City's best interests are served.

## BACKGROUND:

The Pasadena Police Department has deployed less lethal, conductive energy weapons (Tasers) since 2003. Tasers are utilized in situations involving combative suspects, who are often times under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol, to assert control over the individual while at the same time reducing the risk of injury to both officers and suspects. The Taser has repeatedly proven itself to be a valuable tool that has significantly changed the way law enforcement deals with violent and resistive suspects. The Taser has been credited by multiple studies with reducing injuries to both suspects and officers. Taser International, the manufacturer of the Taser, is the only

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manufacturer that provides a product of this type in the market that has been both studied and litigated.

The Police Department currently has 192 tasers in its inventory; the normal life expectancy for these devices is 5 years. 150 of these tasers are seven to ten years old and have begun to fail at a higher rate during the past two years.

ProForce is the only authorized dealer of Tasers in the State of California, as such they are a sole source. As it is in the City's best interests to continue to utilize these nonlethal devices, the City Council is asked to grant this purchase an exemption from the competitive selection process pursuant to Pasadena Municipal Code Section 4.08.049(B), contracts for which the City's best interests are served.

#### **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 Section15061 (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 contract authorization for the replacement of 150 Tasers, holsters and batteries. Purchase Order Contract for Tasers June 6, 2016 Page 3 of 3

## FISCAL IMPACT:

Sufficient funding for this purchase is included in the current operating budget for the Police Department.

Respectfully submitted, PHILLIP L. SANCHEZ Chief of Police Pasadena Police Department

Prepared by:

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Approved by:

STEVE MERMELL Interim City Manager