

Agenda Report

September 21, 2020

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council

THROUGH: Public Safety Committee (September 16, 2020)

FROM: Police Department

SUBJECT: AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A PURCHASE ORDER CONTRACT WITH VIGILANT SOLUTIONS TO PROVIDE REPLACEMENT AUTOMATED LICENSE PLATE READER HARDWARE AND EQUIPMENT

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Find that the proposed contract is not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Sections 15060(c)(2), 15060(c)(3), and 15378; as the activity will not result in a direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment;
2. Authorize a purchase order contract with Vigilant Solutions, Inc. for the purchase of replacing three (3) Mobile Automated License Plate Reader (ALPR) systems including hardware, equipment and an enterprise service agreement in an amount not to exceed \$80,000. Competitive bidding is not required pursuant to City Charter Section 1002(f), for contracts for professional and unique services; and
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 with the City's best interest are served.

BACKGROUND:

Mobile ALPR systems consist of three to four cameras affixed to a patrol vehicle, software to manage the data that is collected, and network connectivity to upload the information to secured cloud storage technology. The system checks each license plate against the stolen vehicle database and then stores a photo with date, time and location data for retrieval during criminal investigations.

In March of 2010, 3M/PIPS was the vendor of choice for Los Angeles County law enforcement agencies to utilize ALPR technology for the automated detection of license plates. In February of 2011, Council authorized the purchase of four (4) ALPR systems and a camera upgrade from 3M/PIPS for the one (1) existing system that was on a portable message board trailer.

In 2017, 3M/PIPS discontinued its support for ALPR hardware and software. The Pasadena Police Department (PPD) transitioned to Vigilant Solutions, which was able to provide all Los Angeles County law enforcement agencies with a software platform known as LEARN. This software seamlessly migrates all data from 3M/PIPS hardware into the Vigilant Solutions user platform with no interruption in service to end users.

The Vigilant ALPR solution allows the PPD to securely share data with other police departments and county sheriff's departments such as Orange, San Bernardino, Riverside and San Diego. Sharing on the LEARN software platform is both simple and secure, and is managed by Vigilant Solutions. As such, there are no additional costs associated with networking or configuration. The Vigilant Solutions LEARN software is proprietary and features various analytical tools that apply against multiple data sources.

In addition to its software solution, Vigilant Solutions developed ALPR devices to replace aging 3M/PIPS hardware. Moving forward, the objective is to continue to replace the Police Department's eleven remaining in service 3M/PIPS ALPR devices as they come to end of life with new Vigilant ALPR mobile devices. Since 2017, five 3M/PIPS ALPR devices have been replaced with hardware from Vigilant Solutions. Continuing to replace old 3M/PIPS devices with those from Vigilant Solutions within the next 3-4 years will maintain continuity across the system and ensure the public safety needs of the city are met.

At this time, to change to a different ALPR platform, will prevent sharing data with other law enforcement agencies in the nation. Also, by operating two different systems, the data will be on two disparate platforms that will not speak to each other. The other ALPR system that exists is a one camera platform where Vigilant is a tri-camera system that has multiple views and camera angles.

The Vigilant ALPR system allows Police Department personnel to be more efficient and effective at deterring and fighting crime. Instant data captures allow field and investigative personnel to act quickly when matches are established. Potentially dangerous situations can be avoided in real time, as Police Department personnel will have the ability to immediately summon appropriate resources when vehicles are identified that are connected to violent criminals who endanger the community. Robust policies and procedures are in place to prevent the system and the information it gathers from being used inappropriately or differently than its intended purpose. These policies hold Police Department personnel accountable for any misuse or abuse of the system.

Staff is recommending that the City Council authorize a purchase order with Vigilant Solutions, Inc. to provide replacement of ALPR equipment and an enterprise service agreement to allow for the continued use of Vigilant Solution products.

COUNCIL POLICY CONSIDERATION:

The proposed action is consistent with the City Council's Plan goals to ensure public safety.

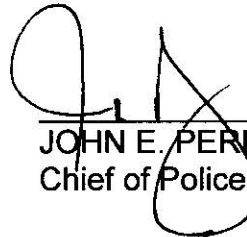
ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS:

The action proposed herein is not a project subject to CEQA, pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Sections 15060 (c)(2), 15060 (c)(3), and 15378. CEQA Guidelines Section 15060 (c) (2) states that an activity is not subject to CEQA if "The activity will not result in a direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment". The proposed activity consists of the purchase of ALPR systems and a service agreement for these systems, which is a continuing administrative and maintenance activity (i.e., purchasing of supplies). No direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment would result from this equipment purchase. For the same reason, the proposed activity is not a CEQA Project" as defined in State CEQA Guidelines Section 15378 and is, therefore, also not subject to CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15060 (c)(3).

FISCAL IMPACT:

The cost of this action is \$80,000. Funding for this action will be addressed by the utilization of existing budgeted appropriations in the Fire Grants Fund 230, UASI18 award. It is anticipated that all funds will be spent during the current fiscal year with no indirect or support cost requirements.

Respectfully submitted,



JOHN E. PEREZ
Chief of Police

Prepared by:



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Acting Executive Administrator

Approved by:



STEVE MERMELL
City Manager