

Agenda Report

May 8, 2023

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council

FROM: Police Department

**SUBJECT: PURCHASE ORDER TO MERIDIAN RAPID DEFENSE GROUP, LLC
FOR ANTI-TERRORISM VEHICLE BARRIERS NOT-TO-EXCEED
AMOUNT OF \$83,340**

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Find that the project proposed herein is exempt under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Section 15061 (b)(3), the general rule that CEQA applies only to projects that may have an effect on the environment; and
2. Accept the bid from Meridian Rapid Defense Group, LLC (DBA Meridian Rental Group) received on March 30, 2023, and authorize a purchase order with Meridian Rapid Defense Group for 8 Anti-Terrorism Vehicle Barriers, trailer, accessories and training for department personnel for an amount not-to-exceed \$83,340.

BACKGROUND:

From time to time, the Police Department needs to provide closure to public streets and city venues from vehicular traffic. Closures for vehicular traffic require barriers able to stop vehicle born assaults. The Police Department currently utilizes Archer Anti-Terrorism Vehicle Barriers to secure the Rose Parade due to their designation by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) under the Safety Act as Qualified Anti-Terrorism Technology (QATT). The Act provides legal liability protections to the end users of designated QATT products.

In 2020, the Police Department submitted a request through the UASI grant program for Portable Vehicle Barriers. In 2021, the Police Department was awarded a grant in the amount of \$90,000 for the purchase of a Portable Vehicle Barrier System.

On Thursday, March 9, 2023, a Notice Inviting Bids for a Portable Vehicle Barrier System was posted on OpenGov Procurement with a March 30, 2023, due date.

The specification included 8 QATT certified barriers, 1 handheld deployment tool, 1 drop deck towable trailer, 2 trailer tow bars, 7 4' attachment cables, 2 10' attachment cables and a minimum of 9 hours of product training to departmental personnel. Notifications were sent to 2,272 vendors with commodity codes for these types of materials.

Meridian Rapid Defense Group, LLC submitted a bid meeting the outlined specifications in the solicitation by the due date. A total of 16 companies downloaded the bid, however Meridian Rapid Defense Group, LLC was the only company with a QATT certified product.

Meridian Rapid Defense Group, LLC is a Pasadena based company. Staff recommends Council approve the award. The Police Department manages events city-wide with a public safety need to deny vehicular traffic into protected areas. Vehicle Borne Assaults are a common form of criminal assault against large group events. Without the ability to set temporary vehicle barriers in place to prevent vehicle assaults or unwitting drivers mistakenly driving through current city owned parade barricades, public safety concerns remain high for such large group events.

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 Section 15061 (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 with a traffic services company for Anti-Terrorism Vehicle Barriers. No physical changes to the environment will result from the proposed contract authorization.

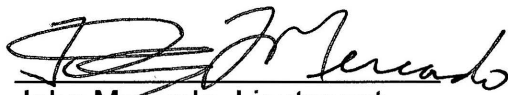
FISCAL IMPACT:

The cost of this action is \$83,340. Funding for this action will be addressed by the utilization of existing budgeted appropriations of funds obtained through the Urban Area Security Initiative Fiscal Year 2021 Grant Award (23033001-850400-91531). It is anticipated that all funds will be spent during the current fiscal year with no indirect or support cost requirements.

Respectfully submitted,


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Pasadena Police Department

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