

Agenda Report

TO: CITY COUNCIL

DATE: August 10, 1998

FROM: CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: PURCHASE OF SIXTEEN MOTOROLA MOBILE RADIOS

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the City Council authorize the Purchasing Administrator to issue a purchase order to Motorola Communications and Electronics Inc. in the amount not to exceed \$52,882.00 for the purchase of sixteen Motorola Mobile Radios for the Pasadena Police Department. 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.

It is further recommended that the City Council grant this contract a partial exemption (vendor outreach only) from the Affirmative Action in Contracting Ordinance pursuant to P.M.C. 4.09.060(C), contracts for which the City's best interests are served.

BACKGROUND

The Police Department is in need of purchasing sixteen digital capable mobile radios for the new 1998 patrol and investigation vehicles due to a change mandated by FCC regulations. With the ever-growing demand for radio spectrum and, more importantly, changes in technology, the FCC has found it necessary to mandate a switch from analog to digital frequencies and set 2003 as the dead line for full conversion to digital.

Currently all radio frequency users operate in an analog mode which has a frequency width of 25 megahertz and provides a limited number of available frequencies. By utilizing digitized radio frequencies, the bandwidth will reduce to 12.5 megahertz. The number of available frequencies will increase substantially, resulting in additional radio spectrum. The additional spectrum will be made available to local governments, on a need basis.

The projected cost for converting the Police Department to a digital system, over the next five years, is approximately one million dollars. Since funds do not exist to make this change at one time, we must migrate to a digital system in phases while we continue to operate on our existing system.

In 1988, bids were solicited to upgrade to the police and fire radio systems in order to standardize emergency response radio equipment. Motorola was the successful bidder. In order to maintain compatibility and standardization in our radio equipment, the City has continued to purchase Motorola radio equipment since 1988. It would be in the City's best interest to maintain the standardization of the Motorola equipment as we phase-in the migration to digital equipment.

Therefore it is recommended that all mobile radios installed in new emergency response vehicles will be the new Motorola narrow band digital FM models. This upgrade will begin with the sixteen new 1998 police vehicles now being delivered and outfitted. The upgrade will be continued for each subsequent year until the conversion process is complete. The cost for these sixteen radios is \$52,882.00.


FISCAL IMPACT

This equipment is a budgeted replacement and sufficient funds are available in the Equipment Replacement Fund, account #766300

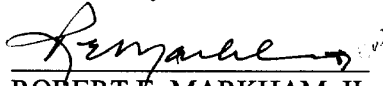
Respectfully submitted,


CYNTHIA J. KURTZ
City Manager

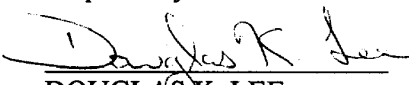
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