

Agenda Report

TO: CITY COUNCIL

DATE: November 23, 1998

FROM: CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: PURCHASE OF FIRE RESISTIVE UNIFORMS

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the City Council authorize the Purchasing Administrator to issue a purchase order to Uniforms, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$62,873.00 for the purchase of 160 sets of fire resistive Nomex® uniforms. 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 also recommended that the City Council grant this purchase an exemption from the competitive selection process of the Affirmative Action in Contracting Ordinance pursuant to Pasadena Municipal Code (P.M.C.) 4.09.060(C) contracts for which the City's best interests are served.

BACKGROUND

In order to comply with the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standards, the Pasadena Fire Department needs to supply fire-fighting personnel with fire resistive uniforms. The current uniforms used by Fire Department personnel do not meet this standard.

The Los Angeles County Fire Department recently undertook a competitive bidding process for the purchase of 1700 fire resistive shirts and 2300 pants. As a result of the bid process, the County awarded a contract to Uniforms, Inc. Uniforms, Inc. has offered to extend to the City of Pasadena the same pricing/discount for the purchase of fire resistive shirts and pants. Uniforms, Inc. currently provides uniforms, albeit not the Nomex® type, to the Pasadena Fire Department and has been for the past six years. The Department is completely satisfied with the products, workmanship and customer service that they have received during that time.

Because of the relatively large number of uniforms being purchased by LA County, Uniforms, Inc. is able offer the City of Pasadena a price that is substantially lower than the list price. Were the City to undertake its own bid process for the purchase of fire resistive uniforms, it would be unlikely that it would yield a price as low as that currently being offered by Uniforms, Inc. The list price for the Nomex® shirt is \$64.00 and \$74.90 for the pants. The price being offered by Uniforms, Inc. in conjunction with the LA County contract is \$48.98/shirt and \$57.89/pant. The price being offered by Uniforms, Inc., is 23% less than the list price thus netting the city savings of over \$16,000.00.

FISCAL IMPACT

Funds in the amount of \$62,873.00 are available for use in the Fire Department's materials and supplies account #8101-101-363000.

Respectfully submitted,

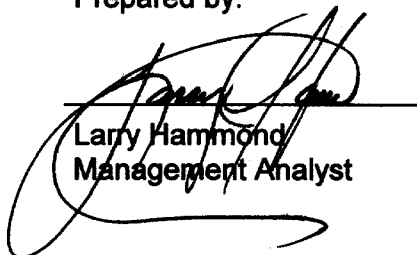

Cynthia J. Kurtz
City Manager

Approved by:


Ernest Mitchell
Fire Chief


Steve Mermell
Purchasing Administrator

Prepared by:


Larry Hammond
Management Analyst