

Honorable Mayor and Members  
of the City Council  
City Hall  
Torrance, California

**Members of the Council:**

**SUBJECT: General Services and Public Works – Authorize purchase of a 2013 CNG-fueled Peterbilt/Heil front-loader refuse truck. Expenditure: \$312,446.85**

**RECOMMENDATION**

Recommendation of the General Services and Public Works Directors that City Council authorize the sole-source purchase of one (1) 2013 Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) fueled Peterbilt 320/Heil front-loader refuse truck from Rush Peterbilt Truck Centers of California Inc. of Pico Rivera, CA in the amount of \$312,446.85 (including sales tax and tire fees).

**Funding**

Funding is available in the Fleet Services Replacement Fund Operating Budget.

**BACKGROUND**

South Coast Air Quality Management District's (AQMD) Fleet Rule # 1193 prohibits the City from purchasing new diesel-powered Refuse Trucks. Because of this rule, staff recommends acquisition of a new Refuse Truck fueled by CNG.

Staff recommends replacement of one (1) Front Loader Refuse truck. Front Loader Refuse trucks are used for large item pickup throughout the City, emptying of large bins at City Hall, City Yard and other City facilities, as well as pickup and recycling of Christmas trees.

## ANALYSIS

<b>Truck to be Replaced</b>					
Vehicle #	Year	Make	Model	Mileage	Condition
9086	1992	Peterbilt/Heil	Front Loader	75,840	Poor

Acquisition of this truck will give the City's Public Works Department a total of ten (10) natural gas fueled vehicles; eight (8) Refuse Trucks and two (2) Street Sweepers.

SECTION 22.3.17 of the City's Municipal Code; EXCEPTION; SOLE-SOURCE PURCHASES states:

"a) The provisions of this Article will not apply to purchases of sole-source services or property, which purchases will be made in accordance with such procedures and regulations as will be established by the City Manager.

b) For purposes of this Section, "sole-source purchases" means those purchases where it would be undesirable or impossible for the City to advertise for bids for particular work or for patented items, or experimental or unique services or products, or where competitive purchases would be unavailable or would not prove advantageous for the City. No sole-source purchases may be made where to do so would show favoritism, improvidence, extravagance, fraud or corruption, or result in the waste of public funds, but may be used only to obtain the best economic result for the public."

Rush Truck Center of California Inc. is the authorized Peterbilt Dealership in Southern California. Rush Truck Center acts as the prime contractor to obtain the Heil refuse truck body from Body Works in Monrovia CA, the sole authorized Heil dealer for Southern California. Staff recommends Sole-Source Purchase (Rush Truck Center) and Brand-Specific (Peterbilt/Heil) for the following reasons:

- a. Standardization; The City's established Refuse Truck standard over the last two decades has been the Peterbilt brand chassis and Heil brand truck body combination. Both are industry giants. There are other brand names in the industry, but none as strong as these brands. Historically, in the Sanitation industry, many truck manufacturers have come and gone, leaving customers with trucks that cannot be supported with original equipment manufacturer (OEM) resources.
- b. Maintenance and Support: Parts inventories for a mixed fleet result in higher maintenance expenditures by increasing on-hand stock requirements as well as placing more demands on warehouse management resources. Also, local factory authorized warranty and repair services through Rush Truck Center reduce equipment down time.
- c. Operational Safety; Sanitation Vehicle Operators switch trucks frequently. Different controls and operating systems between different makes/models of trucks could create safety problems.

The maintenance issues unique to this technology will, for the time being, continue to be dealt with through best practices already in place at Fleet Services. Until the Fleet Services facility is upgraded to meet fire and safety standards required for indoor maintenance of natural gas vehicles, staff will continue to perform maintenance services outdoors, and when necessary, outsource certain tasks to qualified commercial establishments

As the CNG fleet expands further, staff will evaluate the cost-benefit of facility conversion to provide for at least one Fleet Services work bay in which these vehicles can be maintained entirely with in-house resources.

If approved, this truck will be built and delivered to the City in March, 2013.

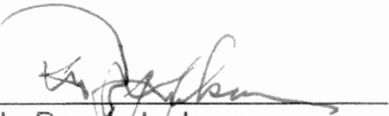
Respectfully submitted,

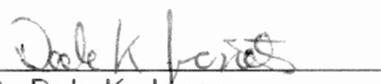
SHERYL BALLEW  
General Services Director

CONCUR:

  
Sheryl Ballew  
General Services Director

  
Rob Beste  
Public Works Director

  
LeRoy Jackson  
City Manager

  
By Dale K. Jones  
Acting Fleet Services Manager