

Council Meeting of  
September 26, 2006

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

**Members of the Council:**

**SUBJECT: Police and General Services – Authorize the purchase and outfitting of nineteen (19) Harley Davidson Motorcycles for the Torrance Police Department. Ref: FEAP # 568. Expenditure: \$413,588.01**

**RECOMMENDATION**

The Interim Police Chief and the General Services Director recommend that the City Council:

1) Authorize the purchase of nineteen (19) 2007 Harley Davidson FLHPI “Road King” Police Motorcycles from Harley Davidson of Westminster, CA. (Bid No. B2006-29) Total purchase price, including sales tax is \$383,308.28;

2) Authorize a sole-source purchase order with PVP Communications, Inc. of Torrance, CA to furnish and install radio interface cables onto nineteen (19) 2007 Harley Davidson FLHPI “Road King” Police Motorcycles. Total price, including sales tax is \$30,279.73; and

3) Authorize additional appropriation of \$67,788.01 to FEAP#568 (Police Motorcycle Replacement).

**Funding**

Funding is available in FEAP # 568 (\$345,800) and from Fleet Services Vehicle and Equipment Replacement Fund (\$67,788.01) to be repaid in the future when funds become available from Trust & Agency Fund (Property Room Evidence Account).

**BACKGROUND**

Since the mid 1980’s, Torrance Police Department (TPD) has utilized the Kawasaki KZ-1000 as the City’s primary Police motorcycle. This motorcycle has proven to be a very reliable and cost-effective law enforcement tool. Unfortunately, Kawasaki has elected to discontinue manufacture of the Police version of this motorcycle. As a result, TPD has over the past two years invested a considerable amount of staff time identifying a suitable replacement for the KZ-1000.

The TPD motorcycle fleet currently consists of twenty-one (21) KZ-1000's. Of these, two (2) are used for training, and the remainder used for front-line patrol. With the purchase of nineteen (19) new Harley Davidson motorcycles, the oldest nineteen of the KZ-1000's will be immediately retired, with the remaining two (2) KZ-1000's to be used as trainers until the next round of Motorcycle purchases, at which time the City will have a 100% Harley Davidson fleet.

During TPD's search for a suitable Police motorcycle replacement, three (3) different motorcycles were evaluated by TPD staff. The BMW model 1100 RT-P, the Honda model 1300P, and the Harley Davidson model FLHPI "Road King". A notable technical improvement included with all of these motorcycles is an "anti-lock" braking system, a relatively new safety feature available on motorcycles. This is a very welcome safety feature that will address concerns that TPD and many other Police agencies have had with respect to motorcycle braking performance. Over the years there have been a number of accidents that would likely have been prevented if anti-lock brakes had been available.

Included in the evaluations of the three motorcycles were a number of visits to, and consultations with other Southern California Police agencies. Staff conducted extensive evaluations and comparisons of the technical characteristics of each motorcycle, as well as the most important aspect; "hands-on" test driving of each motorcycle. At the conclusion of staff's analysis, the consensus was that the Harley Davidson Road King offers the most suitable fit for TPD's motorcycle needs.

Also, with the introduction of these new motorcycles comes the need to upgrade the onboard communications system cabling (wiring) on the bikes. Staff believes it prudent to purchase and install new communications cabling onto the bikes, rather than to transfer the old cabling from the Kawasaki's. The age of these existing wiring systems, coupled with the completely different design of the new motorcycles make this the sensible thing to do. The new cabling systems will provide hands-free communications ability to the Motor Officer while the motorcycle is underway, thus providing for enhanced officer safety.

## **ANALYSIS**

Formal bids for nineteen (19) Harley Davidson FLHPI "Road King" Police Motorcycles were opened on July 27, 2006. Bid results are listed below.

<b>Vendor</b>	<b>Total Bid (Including Sales Tax and Delivery)</b>
Harley Davidson of Westminster * 13031 Goldenwest Street Westminster, CA 92638	\$383,308.28
Laidlaw's Harley Davidson 1919 Puente Avenue Baldwin Park CA 91706	\$390,515.17
Harbor City Enterprises dba California Harley Davidson 1517 Pacific Coast Highway Harbor City, CA 90710	\$406,161.19

\* Lowest Responsible Bidder

The sole-source purchase order with PVP Communications, Inc. of Torrance to furnish and install radio interface cables onto the motorcycles is justified, because PVP Communications is the only company that makes these customized communications cables for Police Motorcycles. PVP is the exclusive provider of these cabling systems to the City of Glendale, the County of Los Angeles, and many other Southern California Police agencies.

Section 22.3.17 of the Torrance Municipal Code EXCEPTION; SOLE-SOURCE PURCHASES states:

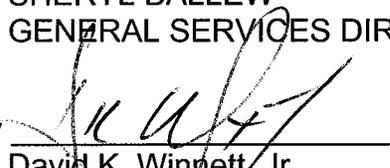
“a) The provisions of this Article will not apply to purchases of sole-source services or property, which purchases will be made in accordance with such procedures and regulations as will be established by the City Manager.

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.”

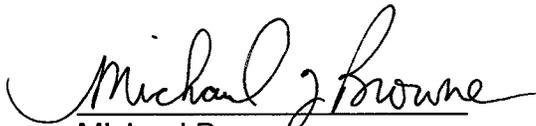
Respectfully submitted,

SHERYL BALLEW  
GENERAL SERVICES DIRECTOR

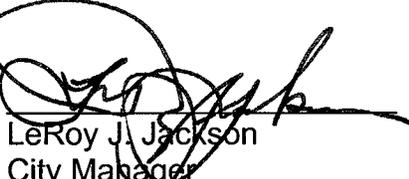
By

  
David K. Winnett, Jr.  
Fleet Services Manager

CONCUR:

  
Michael Browne  
Interim Police Chief

  
Sheryl Ballew  
General Services Director

  
LeRoy J. Jackson  
City Manager