

Council Meeting of
February 27, 2007

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

Members of the Council:

SUBJECT: General Services - Authorize the purchase of two (2) Schwarze Brand Propane-Powered Street Sweepers. Expenditure: \$463,605.39

RECOMMENDATION

The General Services Director recommends that City Council:

- a) Authorize the purchase of two (2) Schwarze brand Propane-Powered Street Sweepers from Kelly Equipment of Upland, California. Total purchase price, including sales tax is \$463,605.39.
- b) Appropriate \$423,605.39 from the Fleet Services Vehicle and Equipment Replacement Fund.
- c) Appropriate \$40,000 from the General Fund Reserve for Alternative Fuel Vehicles.

Funding

Funding is available from the Fleet Services Vehicle and Equipment Replacement Fund and the General Fund Reserve for Alternative Fuel Vehicles.

BACKGROUND

The Sanitation Division of Public Works performs routine Street Sweeping services throughout the City. In order to accomplish this ongoing task, a fleet of seven (7) Street Sweepers is utilized. The City's normal replacement criterion for these vehicles is eight (8) years.

The Street Sweepers being replaced are as follows:

Veh. #	Year	Make	Model	Mileage	Vehicle Condition
9128	1990	Johnson	7000 (Vacuum Style)	67,974	Vacuum box rust, won't hold vacuum. Unusable in this condition
9129	1991	Mobil	ABD-2A (Broom Style)	90,758	Frequent electrical & electronic problems and severe body rust

All of the City's Street Sweepers are currently powered by diesel engines. In accordance with restrictions outlined in South Coast Air Quality Management District's "Fleet Rule # 1186.1, Less Polluting Sweepers", the City is prohibited from purchasing diesel powered Street Sweepers when replacing these vehicles. Instead, we are directed to purchase replacements powered by one of AQMD's "Alternative Fuels", which include Propane, Natural Gas, Fuel Cells, Gasoline, Ethanol or Battery-Electric.

Along these lines, and in accordance with the City's "Alternative Fuel Strategy" as approved by the City Council on March 21, 2006, staff is recommending use of Propane in the new Street Sweepers, which will ensure our compliance with the subject AQMD Fleet Rule, and at the same time provide us with relatively low refueling equipment costs, as compared to the much more costly infrastructure required for Natural Gas powered vehicles. Staff will be forthcoming in the near future with a recommendation for a Propane fuel provider.

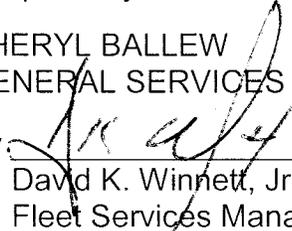
ANALYSIS

After a number of product demonstrations, staff has determined that Schwarze Street Sweepers best meet the needs of the City. Kelly Equipment Company is the sole authorized Schwarze dealer in this region and they are offering the City special governmental pricing for this equipment. The price quoted represents a six-percent (6%) discount from the manufacturer's suggested retail price.

Torrance Municipal Code, SECTION 22.3.17. EXCEPTION; SOLE-SOURCE PURCHASES, paragraph b) states: "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."

Respectfully Submitted,

SHERYL BALLEW
GENERAL SERVICES DIRECTOR

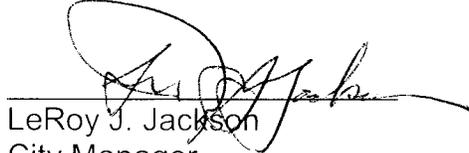
By: 

David K. Winnett, Jr.
Fleet Services Manager

CONCUR:



Sheryl Ballew
General Services Director



LeRoy J. Jackson
City Manager

City Manager's Note:
\$40,000 from the Alternative Fuels Reserve Fund represents a partial cost differential between a diesel-powered street sweeper versus a propane-powered street sweeper.