

Council Meeting
October 16, 2007

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

Members of the Council:

SUBJECT: Police - Authorize a blanket purchase order to San Diego Police Equipment Co. for the Police Department's annual requirement of .45 caliber training ammunition. Expenditure: Not to exceed \$28,000.

RECOMMENDATION

The Police Chief recommends that the City Council authorize a blanket purchase order to San Diego Police Equipment Co., of San Diego, California, in an amount not to exceed \$28,000, for the purchase of the Department's annual supply of .45 caliber training ammunition on an as-needed basis. The purchase order will be for a 12-month term, beginning October 17, 2007 and ending October 16, 2008.

Funding

Funding is available in the Police Department's operating budget (Range; Shoot Range Supplies account).

BACKGROUND

The Police Department provides sworn personnel with the necessary safety equipment and ammunition to become proficient in their duties. Traditionally, the Department has done this through numerous purchase orders issued to vendors for the needed items. Vendors are required to demonstrate that they stock the requisite products and are in a reasonable proximity to the Department.

ANALYSIS

The Police Department requires officers to qualify with any firearm they use in the field while on duty. Ammunition for bi-monthly qualification is provided by the Department. Additionally, newly hired officers use a large quantity of ammunition during training. Over the past few years, ammunition prices have risen sharply due to higher material costs and increased demand by the U.S. Military. Many ammunition orders for law enforcement go unfilled or are only partially filled by suppliers. The Police

Department needs to be able to make purchases quickly as product becomes available in order to keep up the training regimen and have sufficient supplies in reserve for field operations. San Diego Police Equipment Co. is the only distributor in Southern California for this training ammunition and, therefore, meets the criteria for a sole-source purchase.

Torrance Municipal Code 22.3.17 b) creates a purchasing exception for sole-source purchases:

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,

JOHN J. NEU
Chief of Police

By 
Lt. Patrick Shortall
Research & Training Division Commander

CONCUR:


John J. Neu
Chief of Police


LeRoy J. Jackson
City Manager