Council Meeting of
February 26, 2008

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

Members of the Council:

SUBJECT: Communications & Information Technology – Authorize the purchase of used data network equipment from Network Hardware Resale in an amount not-to-exceed $30,000

RECOMMENDATION

Recommendation of the Information Technology Director that Council authorize a purchase order with Network Hardware Resale of Santa Barbara, CA for used data network devices to replace obsolete devices for an amount not-to-exceed $30,000.

Funding

Funding is available in the Data Communications Replacement Fund.

BACKGROUND

Staff systematically replaces network infrastructure to keep pace with software application demands on the data network. Staff also replaces network infrastructure that has exceeded its expected service life or lacks necessary bandwidth capabilities.

Both the City Hall and West Annex core network switches have been in service for six years and have exceeded the manufacturer's product end-of-life date. Upgrade and replacement parts for the switches are no longer made, and the manufacturer has set the product's end-of-support date for 2012.

ANALYSIS

Staff proposes to replace the City Hall switch with a nearly identical model from the same basic product line. The replacement switch, although technically "used", will include enhanced Power-over-Ethernet (PoE) capabilities and other new performance features. Adding PoE capabilities to the network will insure that future Voice-over-Internet Protocol applications can be supported. Staff expects to replace the West Annex switch with the same PoE capable switch later in 2009. The outgoing City Hall

switch will be held as a maintenance spare to support the West Annex switch until it is replaced.

The proposed purchase includes a fully-equipped chassis, redundant power supply assembly, and redundant supervisory control modules. Other modules from the existing switch will be reused. The list price for the proposed equipment (brand new) is $71,995. The quoted used price is $27,380.

The proposed vendor, Network Hardware Reseller (NHR), was selected on the basis that they have been the most reliable source of used Cisco network equipment. First discovered in 2002, NHR was the only secondary Cisco market reseller offering equipment with warranties honored by Cisco and eligible to activate Cisco's SmartNet support coverage. Today NHR remains one of the very few national resellers that staff is aware of who provides the availability, range, quality and manufacturer-warranteed equipment that the City desires.

The Torrance Municipal Code Section 22.3.19 creates a purchasing exception for computer and networking hardware and software purchases. The municipal code states: "The provisions of this Article do not apply to contracts for the purchase of computer and networking hardware and software. The purchase of computer and networking hardware and software will be done pursuant to regulations and procedures established by the City Manager."

Respectfully submitted,

RICHARD SHIGAKI
Information Technology Director

CONCUR:

LeRoy J. Jackson
City Manager

P:agenda/data replacements – Feb 08 – Network Hardware Resale.doc