

Council Meeting of
October 20, 2009

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

Members of the Council:

SUBJECT: Public Works – Award of a Purchase Order to furnish three (3) Vermeer BC 1000XL 12” brush chippers as a cooperative purchase with the National Joint Powers Alliance (NJPA)

Ref: NJPA IFB# 081209 Contract #081209-VRM

Expenditure: \$105,163.50 (including sales tax)

RECOMMENDATION

Recommendation of the Public Works Director that City Council:

1. Appropriate and transfer \$6,163.50 from the General Fund, Public Works operating budget, to FEAP 712-Brush Chippers project; and
2. Award a purchase order to Vermeer Pacific of Rancho Dominguez, CA, in the amount of \$105,163.50, including sales tax, to furnish three (3) BC 1000XL 12” brush chippers as a cooperative purchase with the National Joint Powers Alliance (NJPA).

Funding

Funding of \$99,000 is available from FEAP 712-Brush Chippers Project and \$6,163.50 from the General Fund, Public Works operating budget.

BACKGROUND

The Streetscape Division of the Public Works Department uses brush chippers on a daily basis to chip tree branches that have been cut by tree trimming crews. The Streetscape Division currently has 3 brush chippers (equipment numbers 19201, 14221 and 14222) that are more than 12 years in age. The oldest of these units is 16 years of age. Age and wear has resulted in reduced chip quality, increased cost of operation, and decreased efficiency. Brush chippers are evolving with new technology, safety features and fuel efficiencies but have yet to offer alternative fuel options. Current overall condition, rust, obsolete features, engine hours, and safety features have indicated the need to replace. In addition, these 3 chippers do not meet the Air Resources Board's (ARB) Statewide Portable Equipment Registration Program (PERP) requirements for air quality standards and can not be permitted as required by the

State. Without replacement of these chippers we will not be in compliance and we could be subject to a fine.

ANALYSIS

The National Joint Powers Alliance (NJPA) is a purchasing cooperative that allows participating governmental and municipal agencies to reduce the cost of purchased goods by leveraging their combined purchasing power. NJPA establishes and provides nationally leveraged and competitively solicited purchasing contracts.

On August 12, 2009, NJPA received sealed bids in response to their Invitation for Bid (IFB #081209) entitled "Landscaping and Grounds Related Equipment, Accessories and Supplies." Vermeer Corporation of Pella, Iowa was awarded Contract #081209-VRM as a result of that bid. Vermeer Pacific of Ranch Dominguez, CA is the local dealer to which the purchase order is to be issued.

Staff recommends the purchase of these brush chippers as a cooperative purchase as defined in the City's Municipal Code.

The Torrance Municipal Code, (Section 22.3.15), (EXCEPTIONS COOPERATIVE PURCHASES) states;

"a) The provisions of this Article will not apply to purchases made pursuant to any cooperative governmental purchase program, which purchases will be made in accordance with such procedures and regulations as shall be established by the City Manager.

b) For the purposes of this Section, the term cooperative governmental purchase program means any combination between the City of Torrance and any other public agency or public agencies for the joint purchase of property or services".

Respectfully submitted,

ROBERT J. BESTE
Public Works Director

CONCUR:



Robert J. Beste
Public Works Director


By: Judy Emerson
Streetscape Manager


LeRoy J. Jackson
City Manager