Council Meeting of
June 20, 2006

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

Members of the Council:

SUBJECT: Purchase of Fire Hose with Couplings

Expenditure: $19,203.01 (Includes sales tax.)

RECOMMENDATION

The Fire Chief recommends that the City Council authorize a purchase order be issued to Allstar Fire Equipment, Inc. of Arcadia, California, in the amount of $19,203.01 for the purchase of Angus fire hose with couplings.

Funding

Funding is available in the Fire Department FY2005-06 Operating Budget.

BACKGROUND/ ANALYSIS

This request is for replacement of additional hose that was inadvertently omitted from the April 25, 2006 order. On April 25, 2006, City Council approved a purchase order to Allstar Fire Equipment, Inc. of Arcadia, California, in the amount of $31,641.92 for the purchase of Angus and North American fire hose with couplings to be used by the Fire Department in structural and brush firefighting. Council approval is required because cumulative purchases from this vendor have exceeded $24,999.

This purchase will allow the replacement of 3400 feet of hand line hose and 1100 feet of supply line hose that has either been in service for over 10 years or is being replaced due to failure or wear and tear. Fire hand line hose has a typical life expectancy of 10 years. The Department's goal is to replace all the hose every 10 years or when it fails the annual pressure test. This is to assure safe operations during emergencies.

The Angus hose meets NFPA 1961 requirements and is the brand that the Fire Department currently uses for structure firefighting. Purchasing Angus hose will be consistent with the existing hose. Allstar Fire Equipment, Inc. is the sole distributor for Angus Fire Hose in California. Staff believes that the sole-source purchase exception, Section 22.3.17 of the Torrance Municipal Code, applies to the purchase of the Angus fire hose.

SECTION 22.3.17. EXCEPTION; 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,

RICHARD V. BONGARD
Fire Chief

By Neli Mileva
Administrative Analyst

CONCUR:

Richard V. Bongard
Fire Chief

LeRoy J. Jackson
City Manager

Attachments: A. April 25, 2006 Agenda Item.

ATTACHMENT A

Council Meeting of
April 25, 2006

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

Members of the Council:

SUBJECT: Purchase of Fire Hose with Couplings

Expenditure: $31,641.92 (Includes sales tax and freight.)

RECOMMENDATION

The Fire Chief recommends that the City Council authorize a purchase order to Allstar Fire Equipment, Inc. of Arcadia, California, in the amount of $31,641.92 for the purchase of Angus Premier and North American fire hose with couplings to be used by the Fire Department in routine structural and brush firefighting.

Funding

Funding is available in the Fire Department FY2005-06 Operating Budget.

BACKGROUND

The North American forestry fire hose is designed to meet specialized requirements for fighting wildland fires: it is a single layer, lighter hose. The Angus Premier hand line hose is used for fighting structure fires; it connects to the fire engine and is carried from the engine to the building for interior fire attack. The Angus Premier soft suction hose is hose that attaches between the hydrant and the fire pump.

This purchase will allow the replacement of hand line and soft suction hose that has been in service for over 13 years. Fire hose has a typical life expectancy of 10 years. The Department's goal is to replace all of the hose every 10 years or when it fails the annual pressure test. The forestry hose will replace the hose currently in service should it become damaged. This is to assure safe operations during emergencies.

ANALYSIS

The Angus hose meets NFPA 1961 requirements and is the brand that the Fire Department currently uses for structure firefighting. Purchasing Angus hose will be consistent with the existing hose. Allstar Fire Equipment, Inc. is the sole distributor for Angus Fire Hose in California (see attached letter form All Star Fire Equipment). As for the North American hose, competitive quotes were obtained for the different sizes of hose, and Allstar Fire Equipment, Inc. had the best pricing. Staff believes that the sole-source purchase exception, Section 22.3.17 of the Torrance Municipal Code, applies to the purchase of the Angus fire hose.

SECTION 22.3.17. EXCEPTION; 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,

RICHARD V. BONGARD
Fire Chief

By Neli Mileva
Administrative Analyst

CONCUR:

Richard V. Bongard
Fire Chief

LeRoy J. Jackson
City Manager

Attachments: A. Letter from Allstar Fire Equipment, Inc.

ATTACHMENT A

ALLSTAR
Fire Equipment Inc.

4-3-06

City of Torrance
Purchasing Department
3031 Torrance Blvd
Torrance, Ca 90503
Attn: Laurie Lim

Fax: 1-310-6185825

Dear Ms. Lim:

This letter is to inform you that Allstar Fire Equipment is the sole source provider in the state of California for Angus Fire Hose and appliances. If you have any questions or require additional information, please give me a call.

Sincerely,

ALLSTAR FIRE EQUIPMENT

John Sprengelmeyer
Sales Department

MAIN OFFICE • 12328 Lower Azusa Road, Arcadia, CA 91006 • Tel (626) 652-0900 • Fax (626) 652-0920
HAYWARD BRANCH • 2552 Barrington Court • Hayward, CA 94545 • Tel (510) 887-6295 • Fax (510) 887-6298