

Council Meeting of
July 18, 2006

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

Members of the Council:

**SUBJECT: Recommendation to Authorize Engine Repair and Overhaul for
Torrance Fire Engine #125**

Expenditure: \$27,825.00 (Includes Sales Tax and 5% Contingency)

RECOMMENDATION

The General Services Director and the Fire Chief recommend that Council authorize payment to Harbor Diesel and Equipment Company ("Harbor Diesel"), of Long Beach California for performance of an Engine Overhaul on Torrance Fire Engine #125. Total costs, including sales tax and 5% contingency funding will not exceed \$27,825.00

Funding

Funding is available in the Fire Department's FY 2006-07 Operating Budget.

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS

Torrance Fire Engine #125 is a 1994 Seagraves "Triple Combo" Fire Engine that has thus far accumulated over 63,000 miles of use. The engine in this Fire Engine recently experienced a catastrophic failure that, for a twelve year old Fire Engine, should not be considered out of the ordinary. The demanding duty cycle of these Fire Engines frequently subjects them to severe operating conditions. Over time, the wear and tear that occurs as the engine is repeatedly run at high RPM after a cold start begins to create stress on the internal engine components. Under these conditions, eventual engine failure is inevitable.

The nature and extent of this engine failure was immediately deemed beyond the scope of resources available to the Fleet Services Division. Accordingly, the Fire Engine was transported to Harbor Diesel for further inspection. Harbor Diesel presented their findings and recommendations shortly thereafter, to which Fleet Services and Fire Department Staff concurred.

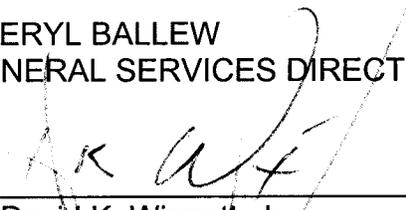
Harbor Diesel is a reputable provider of heavy-duty vehicle repairs for this City, as well as many other municipalities and large commercial fleets in Southern California. They have over the years proven to be a dependable vendor for the City, providing quality work at competitive rates.

In the interest of ensuring that Fire Engine #125 is returned to service as quickly as possible, the City Manager provided initial authorization for Harbor Diesel to proceed with repairs. Staff now requests that Council provide formal approval for the expense resulting from these repairs.

Section 22.3.12 of the Torrance Municipal Code, EMERGENCIES, states; "Notwithstanding any other provision of this Article, where the City Manager determines that an emergency exists (other than where a disaster type emergency has been proclaimed or exists as provided in Section 16.2.7), he may purchase such property or services as, in his opinion, are required for the preservation of the health, safety or welfare of the residents of the City or for the protection of property therein. The City Manager will report such emergency purchases to the City Council at the next regular or adjourned regular Council meeting."

Respectfully Submitted,

SHERYL BALLEW
GENERAL SERVICES DIRECTOR

By 
David K. Winnett, Jr.
Fleet Services Manager

CONCUR:


Sheryl Ballew
General Services Director


Rick Bongard
Fire Chief


LeRoy J. Jackson
City Manager