



CITY OF SAN MATEO

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Agenda Report

Agenda Number: 6

Section Name: {{section.name}}

Account Number: 82-4683

File ID: {{item.tracking_number}}

TO: City Council
FROM: Drew Corbett, City Manager
PREPARED BY: Public Works Department
MEETING DATE: May 01, 2023
SUBJECT:
Police Department Patrol Vehicles – Purchase Contract

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt a Resolution approving an alternative purchasing procedure and approve a purchase contract with National Auto Fleet Group for the purchase of nine (9) new 2023 Ford Police Interceptor Utility vehicles in the amount of \$585,929.70; establish a contingency reserve in the amount of \$59,000; authorize the Public Works Director to execute the purchase contract in substantially the form presented and issue change orders within the contingency amount.

BACKGROUND:

The replacement of police vehicles is critical to provide safe transportation during the execution of police duties. The vehicle standard for most law enforcement is the Ford Police Interceptor Utility. Council previously approved the purchase of nine (9) 2023 Ford Hybrid Police Interceptors on September 19, 2022; however, due to the Ford Motor Company experiencing material shortages on the hybrid engine, Ford notified their customers that they are unable to fulfill their 2023 Ford Hybrid Police Interceptor orders.

As part of the Council's priority to transition to a Green Fleet, staff had proposed the purchase of these hybrid units. However, with Ford's inability to fulfill the order, staff evaluated the following options:

- **Electric Vehicles:** Currently, Ford, Chevy, or Dodge do not have electrical vehicle options available. Many of the car manufacturers expect to produce vehicles comparable to the Ford Police Interceptor Utility in two years. Both the cities of Fremont and Menlo Park, however, have purchased Tesla models as part of their electrical vehicle police fleet. In 2019, the City of Fremont's Police Department purchased a Tesla Model S 85 and a Tesla Model Y in 2021. In late 2022, the City of Menlo Park initiated a pilot program to test three Tesla Model Y units for its police vehicle fleet. Both agencies experienced issues with the vehicles shutting off after 20 minutes of not being in use – the cars lock and the lights shut off. While the City of Fremont was able to find a solution, the City of Menlo Park is currently working on addressing the problem. On the Model Y model, the City of Fremont paid \$57,000 for the vehicle and \$28,000 for outfitting while the City of Menlo Park paid \$66,000 for the vehicle and \$38,000 for outfitting.
- **Gas Powered:** Due to their production challenges with the hybrid units, Ford Motor Company is allowing agencies with existing orders to elect to switch to the 3.3L naturally aspirated V6 or the 3.0L V6 EcoBoost (turbo-charged) gas powered engine models to keep vehicle orders in the same queue for purchase. Based on the staff's evaluation and research of the two patrol packages available, the EcoBoost model is the higher performing and safer option. This is based on acceleration, speed, and an enhanced suspension system that provides for more stability, especially in wet/rainy conditions, a superior braking system, and the same combined city/highway mpg as the

3.3L naturally aspirated model. For nine vehicles, the 3.0L V6 EcoBoost are \$8,550 more expensive (total) than the original hybrid units that were previously ordered.

The timely replacement of vehicles is critical to the operations of the Police Department. With the lack of electric vehicle options that meet the requirements for our police fleet, and since the Tesla models are only in the pilot phase for police use by other agencies, the recommendation is to purchase the Ford Interceptor EcoBoost models now as they are available for production. It is important to note that electric vehicle options will continue to be evaluated, and market availability of new models will increase in the next couple of years. The options right now, however, are limited to one manufacturer and in the testing phase. Also, the City's Police Department currently operates Ford Interceptor EcoBoost models and are satisfied with the performance. Therefore, staff requests Council approval to purchase nine (9) new Ford 3.0L V6 EcoBoost Police Interceptor Utility vehicles to replace nine (9) existing vehicles that are past due for replacement. Accordingly, staff will terminate the prior purchase contract for the unavailable hybrid vehicles.

Staff utilized Sourcewell pricing through National Auto Fleet Group for the purchase of these vehicles. San Mateo Municipal Code Section 3.60.070(h)(3) authorizes the City Council to approve an alternative purchasing procedure when it finds doing so is in the best interest of the City. Sourcewell (formerly NJPA) is a government organization that solicits, receives, and reviews competitive bids for various specialty equipment, including the Ford Police Interceptor Utility vehicles. Sourcewell has conducted competitive, public bids to select vehicle vendors to achieve competitive pricing and has selected National Auto Fleet Group. Therefore, the purchase of nine (9) new 2023 Ford Police Interceptor vehicles from National Auto Fleet Group is in the best interest of the City because the 2023 Ford Police Interceptor vehicle is the recommended replacement for existing Police patrol vehicles and the City may rely on bids obtained from Sourcewell because it has solicited, received, and reviewed competitive bids for the desired Police patrol vehicles through its cooperative purchasing program. Based on the above, staff recommends the purchase of these nine (9) new 2023 Ford Police Interceptor vehicles from National Auto Fleet Group.

BUDGET IMPACT:

Sufficient funding is available in the Vehicle and Equipment Replacement Fund for this purchase.

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION:

This purchase is not a project subject to CEQA, because it is an organizational or administrative activity that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment. (CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(b)(5).)

NOTICE PROVIDED

All meeting noticing requirements were met.

ATTACHMENTS

Att 1 - Proposed Resolution

Att 2 - Purchase Contract – National Auto Fleet Group

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