



AGENDA REPORT

Department: Engineering and Public Works
Prepared by: Tirza Gonzales, Operations Manager
Meeting Date: Tuesday, November 19, 2024
Approved by: Benjamin A. Martinez, City Manager

SUBJECT:

Authorizing the Purchase of an Aerial Boom Truck for the Public Works Parks Division

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt a Resolution Entitled, "Resolution of the City Council of the City of National City, California, 1) Waiving the Formal Bid Process Pursuant to National City Municipal Code Section 2.60.110(B) Regarding Exceptions to Formal Competitive Bidding and Authorizing the Purchase of a 2025 Freightliner Forestry Aerial Boom Truck from Commerce Truck Equipment Sales, LLC in a Not-to-Exceed Amount of \$254,795.06 for the Public Works Parks Division; 2) Authorizing the Establishment of an Appropriation in the Amount of \$254,796 in the Vehicle Acquisition Fund; and 3) Authorizing the City Manager to Approve Adjustments of Up to \$25,479 to the Not-to-Exceed Amount for the Purchase as a 10% Contingency for Unforeseen Fluctuations in Pricing."

BOARD/COMMISSION/COMMITTEE PRIOR ACTION:

Not Applicable.

EXPLANATION:

The current Aerial Boom Truck used by City Public Works Parks Division to provide tree trimming services for the community has exceeded its useful life and has required significant maintenance, resulting in extended periods of inoperability and delays to service. On February 21, 2023, the City Council approved Resolution 2023-15, authorizing budget appropriations for the purchase of one (1) Aerial Boom Truck from PB Loader for Public Works Parks Division in a not-to-exceed amount of \$382,000. Due to unforeseen issues with the ordering and acquisition process, the Boom Truck order was never fulfilled. Staff has contacted additional vendors for quotes and availability. In most instances, lead times have been excessive (one-to-two years or greater). Recently, staff was able to locate a viable vendor for the Aerial Boom Truck, a 2025 Freightliner Forestry Truck, from sole source vendor Commerce Truck Equipment Sales LLC for \$254,795.06. This new vehicle would provide an estimated savings of approximately \$127,000 from the previously approved purchase.

National City Municipal Code (NCMC) Section 2.60.110(B) - Formal bidding procedure-- Generally, provides authority for the City Council to waive formal competitive bidding where, among other reasons, competitive bidding is or would be impractical or impossible or the circumstances are such that no obvious, ascertainable advantage to the City could result.

Due to challenges with availability and long lead times, and the immediate need to acquire a new Aerial Boom Truck to perform tree trimming services, staff is requesting authorization from the City Council to waive the formal bid process pursuant to NCMC Section 2.60.110(B), and purchase one (1) Aerial Boom Truck, a 2025 Freightliner Forestry Truck, for Public Works Parks Division from Commerce Truck Equipment Sales LLC in a not-to-exceed amount of \$254,795.06.

Since the onset of the pandemic in 2020, vehicle acquisitions have become challenging. The climate in the automotive industry has changed from what we are used to. We are experiencing placing vehicle and equipment orders in advance through unpredictable and unreliable manufacturer order processes, price changes passed on to the consumer due to increasing costs and availability issues, and fluctuating ordered vehicle delivery dates. Vendor proposals include language as “Pricing Subject to Surcharges,” and “Prices Subject to Change.” Due to this trend, staff is requesting approval of an additional 10% contingency in order to allow flexibility in the need to acquire vehicles and equipment in the event that unforeseen pricing changes arise.

Staff recommends City Council adopt the Resolution as stated.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT:

Previously budgeted appropriations for the purchase of an aerial boom truck will be canceled and new appropriations for the currently proposed acquisition will be established in the Vehicle Acquisition Fund as follows:

644-10-31-31400-7511-	\$254,796 Automotive Equipment
644-10-31-31400-7511-	\$ 25,479 (Contingency)

RELATED CITY COUNCIL 2020-2025 STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL:

Not Applicable

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW:

This is not a project under CEQA and is therefore not subject to environmental review. CCR15378; PRC 21065.

PUBLIC NOTIFICATION:

The Agenda Report was posted within 72 hours of the meeting date and time in accordance with the Ralph M. Brown Act.

ORDINANCE:

Not Applicable

EXHIBITS:

- A. Commerce Truck Equipment Sales LLC Quote
- B. Resolution