

SUBJECT: REQUEST TO PURCHASE THREE MARKED POLICE VEHICLES

SOURCE: Police Department

COMMENT: In the FY 2012/2013 budget cycle, the Police Department had four marked patrol vehicles that were scheduled for replacement.

Due to strong fiscal management and adherence to our vehicle depreciation plan, the monies for these vehicle replacements have already been accumulated in the vehicle depreciation account. In past years, a careful evaluation has been made of each particular vehicle to determine actual need for replacement and to ensure that a vehicle is not replaced solely because it is scheduled to be replaced. In light of budget uncertainties, this part of the vehicle replacement process is even more critical and has recently been completed on these four vehicles.

It has been determined that of the four vehicles scheduled for replacement, only three of them are in extreme need of replacement. Although there may be increased maintenance costs with the remaining marked vehicle, the Department believes the replacement of the vehicle can be deferred to later in the FY 2013/2014 budget year.

Department staff has conducted extensive research with regard to the purchase of a suitable replacement for the existing marked police vehicles, as Ford Crown Victoria sedans are no longer available as an option. The Dodge Charger has been identified as the only rear-wheel-drive vehicle suitable for our needs. It was determined that the City of Visalia contract for the purchase of Dodge Chargers was the best available price in the state and is the standard by which many much larger agencies are purchasing their fleet vehicles. This contract price is available to the City of Porterville as well. Contact was diligently made with the local Dodge Dealer, Porterville Chrysler Jeep, but they were unable to provide a competitive bid.

The contract is administered through McPeek's Dodge of Anaheim, which provided us a quote of \$42,046.29 per vehicle, or a total price of \$126,138.87 for all three vehicles. This price includes outfitting with all required safety equipment and radios. The vehicles are 2013 models, which the dealership currently has in stock, and are equipped with V-8 gasoline engines.


D.D.           



Appropriated/Funded           

MB

C.M.           



Item No.           

15

Based on the above information, Department staff believes it would be prudent to take advantage of the opportunity to purchase these vehicles immediately, prior to the stock of available 2013 models being depleted. If we do not act promptly, there is a high risk of both extremely extended delivery dates and substantial cost increases for 2014 models. The Department requests permission to start the vehicle purchase process as soon as possible.

RECOMMENDATION: That the City Council:

- 1) Authorize the City's Purchasing Agent to negotiate the purchase and outfitting of three marked police vehicles from McPeek's Dodge at contract price; and
- 2) Authorize payment when the purchase process is completed.