

**City of Culver City, California
Agenda Item Report**

Meeting Date: <u>07/27/2009</u>		Item Number: <u>C-5</u>	
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM: (1) Waiver of the Formal Competitive Bidding Process as Authorized by § 3.07.065 (A) & (D) of the Culver City Municipal Code and (2) Approval of the Purchase of Seven Smart Cover Sewer Monitoring and Alarm Systems from Plumbers Depot, Inc.			
Contact Person/Dept.: Eric Mirzaian/PW		Phone Number: (310) 253-6410	
Fiscal Impact: Yes ☒ No ☐		General Fund: Yes ☐ No ☒	
Public Hearing: ☐		Action Item: ☐	Attachments: ☒
Commission Action Required: Yes ☐ No ☒		Date: _____	
Public Notification: (E-mail) Meetings and Agendas – City Council (07/22/09)			
Department Approval: Charles D. Herbertson (07/16/09)		City Attorney Approval: Carol Schwab (by H. Baker) (07/22/09)	
Chief Financial Officer Approval: Jeff Muir (by N. Kimball) (07/22/09)		City Manager Approval: Mark Scott (07/22/09)	
 <u>RECOMMENDATION:</u> Staff recommends the City Council (1) waive the formal competitive bidding process as authorized by § 3.07.065 (A) & (D) of the Culver City Municipal Code and (2) approve the purchase of seven Smart Cover Sewer Monitoring and Alarm Systems (Smart Covers) from Plumbers Depot, Inc., in the amount of \$27,672.47. <u>BACKGROUND:</u> Smart Covers are sensor modules which are mounted under sewer manhole covers that sense sewage levels and send out alarms when the level exceeds a predetermined set point. The intention of the Smart Covers is to supplement the Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) System currently utilized by the Public Works Department to monitor many components of the City's seven sewer pump stations including: pump operations, wet and dry well levels, and electrical components. Should any of these components fail or reach a pre-determined warning threshold, the SCADA System will notify Public Works staff via pagers and cell phones. Staff determined it would be effective to install Smart Covers as a separate independent back-up system that would notify staff in the event of a SCADA System communications failure. In addition, the Smart Covers alert sewer maintenance staff of problems within the sewer system itself, such as sewer blockages, which are not related to pump station operation.			

City of Culver City, California
Agenda Item Report

Pursuant to authorization provided by the City Council, a total of 22 Smart Covers have been installed at various locations throughout the City. The Smart Covers have proven to be very effective. Elevated sewage levels have been detected by the Smart Covers on a number of occasions since installation. This early detection allowed Public Works staff to respond to and correct the problems before a sewer overflow occurred. The Smart Covers have proven to be an inexpensive and dependable alert system and are an effective back-up and enhancement to our existing SCADA System.

DISCUSSION:

Should the City Council approve this request, these seven Smart Covers will be utilized at immediate high risk and high sewage flow areas throughout the City.

Staff recommends that the formal competitive bidding process be waived per Culver City Municipal Code § 3.07.065 (A) & (D) since these additional Smart Covers will be components for equipment previously acquired by the City and due to the fact Smart Covers can currently be purchased only through Plumbers Depot, Inc. (a sole-source vendor). Accordingly, staff recommends that the City Council approve the purchase of seven additional Smart Covers from Plumbers Depot, Inc., in the amount of \$27,672.47.

FISCAL ANALYSIS:

Sufficient funding is available in the Capital Improvements Project P-521, Pump Station Improvements (20400521), to cover the requested purchase of seven Smart Covers at a total cost of \$27,672.47. The price includes equipment, installation and annual monitoring for the first year. Subsequently, there will be recurring costs of \$300 per Smart Cover for annual monitoring. The ongoing monitoring costs are included in the Sewer Fund's annual operating budget.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Quote from Plumbers Depot, Inc.

MOTION:

That the City Council:

1. Waive the formal competitive bidding process as authorized by § 3.07.065 (A) & (D) of the Culver City Municipal Code; and,
2. Approve the purchase of seven Smart Covers from Plumbers Depot, Inc. in the amount of \$27,672.47; and,

City of Culver City, California
Agenda Item Report

3. Authorize the City Attorney to review/prepare the necessary documents and,
4. Authorize the City Manager to execute such documents on behalf of the City.