

City of Culver City, California
Agenda Item Report

Meeting Date: 05/27/2014		Item Number: <u>C-8</u>	
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM: Authorization to Release a Request for Proposals for Truck Scale System Replacement and Pit Signal Indicator System Enhancement at Culver City Solid Waste and Recycling Transfer Station Located at 9255 Jefferson Boulevard			
Contact Person/Dept.: Steven Finton/PW Damian Skinner		Phone Number: 310-253-6457 (310) 253-6421	
Fiscal Impact: Yes ☒ No ☒		General Fund: Yes ☐ No ☒	
Public Hearing: ☐		Action Item: ☐ Attachments: ☒ (via electronic link)	
Commission Action Required: Yes ☐ No ☒		Date: _____	
Public Notification: (E-Mail) Agenda and Meetings – City Council (5/21/14); (E-Mail) Ongoing Topics - Sustainability and Environmental Issues (5/21/14)			
Department Approval: Charles D. Herbertson (05/20/14)		City Attorney Approval: Carol Schwab (by H. Baker) (05/20/14)	
Chief Financial Officer Review: Jeff Muir (by M. Noller) (05/21/14)		City Manager Approval: John M. Nachbar (05/21/14)	
<u>RECOMMENDATION:</u> Staff recommends the City Council authorize the release of a Request for Proposals (RFP) for Truck Scale System Replacement and Pit Signal Indicator System Enhancement at Culver City Solid Waste and Recycling Transfer Station located at 9255 Jefferson Boulevard. <u>BACKGROUND:</u> The City owns and operates a solid waste transfer station at 9255 Jefferson Boulevard. Solid Waste and recycling collected by City Public Works Department/Sanitation Division trucks is transferred to tractor/trailer transfer trucks at the facility for transit to area recycling centers or landfills. Roll-off service, green waste processing, recycled material handling, and all other Refuse and Recycling Division functions are based at this facility. The transfer station is a two-story reinforced concrete structure. City Sanitation collection trucks dump their loads on the upper level tipping floor, and tractor loaders push the material through two openings (pits) in the tipping floor into transfer trucks parked in the “slot” on the lower level. One pit is generally used for trash, and the other is used for recycling. Transfer trucks are weighed as they are loaded to assure they do not exceed legal maximum axle loads per the California Vehicle Code. The current system consists of two axle scale pairs under each pit. Axle loads are displayed to equipment operators on the upper tipping floor.			

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DISCUSSION:

Scale System

The existing axle scale system is deteriorated and at the end of its useful life. Required maintenance is frequent and costly, and calibrations made to the scales do not last because of persistent mechanical failures. The scale system was installed when the Transfer Station was built in the early 1980s.

Presently, trucks are weighed by four separate scales each 30" wide and 7' long. The scales are placed side by side separated by the width of the truck axle. Debris gets caught in the scales during loading, and critical electrical cable leads are vulnerable and damaged frequently. Replacement of the scales is recommended to reduce maintenance costs and improve dependability. The replacement scales would be longer and wider than the existing scales, and all critical components would be placed internally and protected from damage. The new scales would span the width of the slot which will facilitate cleaning significantly.

Pit Signal Indicator System

Communication between transfer truck drivers and tipping floor staff is not efficient. Staff must look into the pit to verify that a truck is in position and ready to be loaded. Transfer truck drivers and tipping floor staff must rely on yelling or honking to verify a truck is loaded and ready to depart. Background noise at the Transfer Station makes communication difficult. A signal system exists on the east pit, but is not used consistently due to its configuration. It is recommended that an enhanced pit indicator be installed on the east pit, and a new indicator system be installed on the west pit. The system would be composed of a red light/green light system visible to tipping floor staff and transfer truck drivers. This would enhance safety and efficiency of loading operations.

Culver City Municipal Code Sections 3.07.085 provides exemption from the formal bidding process for Professional and Personal Services and requires the award of the contract based upon competitive quotations, whenever practicable, as determined by the City Manager. Per Section 3.07.085.B.5, this project falls under the category of personal services, which includes the repair and maintenance of City-owned equipment or machinery. Therefore, an informal bidding process is proposed consisting of the release of a Request for Proposals to make the needed repairs and replacements.

FISCAL ANALYSIS:

The estimated cost of the proposed improvements is \$150,000. Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2013/2014 Capital Improvement Program, Refuse Improvements, Project No. PZ-948, Transfer Station Improvements (Account No. 20280000.730100.PZ948).

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ATTACHMENT:

The RFP is available at the following link:

<http://www.culvercity.org/en/Government/PublicWorks/CouncilItems.aspx>

MOTIONS:

That the City Council:

Authorize the release of a Request for Proposals for Truck Scale System Replacement and Pit Signal Indicator System Enhancement at the Culver City Solid Waste and Recycling Transfer Station Located at 9255 Jefferson Boulevard.