

City of Culver City, California
City Council Agenda Item Report

Meeting Date: 03/24/08		Item Number: <u>A-5</u>	
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 Public Works-Maintenance Operations		Phone Number: (310) 253-6410	
Fiscal Impact: Yes ☒ No ☐		General Fund: Yes ☐ No ☒	
Public Hearing: ☐		Action Item: ☒ Attachments: ☒	
Public Notification: Master Notification List (03/19/08); Plumbers Depot, Inc. <u>03/17/08</u> . .			
Department Approval: Charles D. Herbertson (03/12/2008)		City Attorney Approval: Carol Schwab (by H. Baker) (03/18/08)	
Fiscal Impact Review: Jeff Muir (by M. Noller) (03/18/08)		City Manager Approval: Jerry B. Fulwood (03/19/08)	
<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 the Smart Covers from Plumbers Depot, Inc., in the amount of \$27,467.23. <u>BACKGROUND:</u> Currently, the Public Works Department utilizes a Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) System 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. The SCADA System is currently the City's only pump station monitoring system. A separate independent back-up system is recommended that could notify Staff in the event of a SCADA System communications failure. Smart Covers are sensor modules which are mounted under sewer manhole covers. The modules sense sewage levels and report alarms via a separate communication system. In December of 2007, the Public Works Department purchased two (2) Smart Covers from Plumbers Depot, Inc. on a trial basis. One Smart Cover was placed under the sewer manhole cover adjacent to the Overland Pump Station and the other under the manhole cover adjacent to the Braddock Pump Station.			

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The Smart Covers have proven to be effective. Recently, an elevated sewage level was detected by the Smart Cover at the Braddock Pump Station. This early detection allowed Public Works Staff to rectify the problem before an overflow occurred. The Smart Covers have proven to be an inexpensive and dependable alert system and are an effective back-up to our existing SCADA System.

DISCUSSION:

Staff recommends that the formal competitive bidding 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)..

FISCAL ANALYSIS:

Sufficient funding is available in the Capital Improvement Project P-521, Pump Station Improvements (20400521), to cover the requested purchase of seven Smart Covers at a total cost of \$27,467.23. 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. These additional Smart Covers will be utilized at the City's other pump stations and other high sewage flow areas.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Quote from Plumbers Depot, Inc.

MOTION:

That the City Council:

1. Waive the formal competitive bidding procedure as authorized by § 3.07.065 (A) & (D) of the Municipal Code; and,
2. Authorize the purchase of seven Smart Covers from Plumbers Depot, Inc. in the amount of \$27,467.23; and,
3. Authorize the City Attorney to review/prepare the necessary documents and authorize the City Manager to execute such documents on behalf of the City.