

CITY OF PALM DESERT STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: February 15, 2024

PREPARED BY: Randy Chavez, Deputy Director of Public Works

REQUEST: PURCHASE OF A STREET SWEEPER TO IMPROVE CITYWIDE
ROADWAY AND PARKING LOT MAINTENANCE

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Authorize the purchase of an Elgin Broom Bear Street Sweeper from Haaker Equipment Company from La Verne, California, in the amount of \$454,194.27.
2. Authorize the Director of Finance to set aside a contingency of \$25,000 for any unforeseen fees and ancillary equipment.
3. Authorize the Finance Director to appropriate funds in the amount \$479,194.27 from unobligated Equipment Replacement Fund to Account No. 5304310-4403000.
4. Authorize City Manager or designee to approve the use of the contingency and any documents necessary to effectuate actions taken herewith.

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS:

Summary:

Over recent years, Palm Desert has received numerous occurrences of windborne sand events and a corresponding rise in demands for improved roadway and parking lot sweeping maintenance. As a result, staff reviewed its street sweeping operations, including the current outsourced level of service, and best practices. After review, staff recommends purchasing a diesel street sweeper, which is readily available today (no lead time) with approval of this item.

Issue:

Windborne sand events have been increasing over the years, leading to an increase in requests for street sweeping services. Consequently, the City's street sweeping operations have been unable to keep up with desired service levels. The necessity for maintaining clean and debris-free streets has emerged as a priority for the City's ongoing development and maintenance efforts, as well as the need for continual emergency preparation.

Existing Operations:

To effectively remove windborne sand from roadways, a combination of proactive measures and responsive cleaning techniques are employed. The City implements regular street sweeping, dust control measures, vegetation plantation, and barrier installation. Contracted sweeping services include:

- Regular Street Sweeping Services (Bi-weekly): The City contracts with a vendor for arterial and parking lot sweeping for \$230,000 annually until June 30, 2028. This covers all costs for bi-weekly sweeping, and the vendor's performance has been satisfactory.
- CVAG Sweeping Services (Bi-weekly): CVAG's sweeping vendor, funded through AB2766, sweeps major arterials in Palm Desert (Attachment A). However, they fall short of the City's standards due to traffic volume, sand accumulation, and other reasons. Despite outreach, issues persist. The City allocates \$60,000 annually for this service. Staff have reached out for quotes for additional sweeping and are awaiting a response.
- Additional Sweeping Services (As-needed): The City contracts with its vendor for extra services during severe weather. The City recently spent \$22,000 on rental equipment in June and July 2023 and invested \$100,000 post-Hilary Storm. Securing a street sweeper during emergencies took around 30 days in the latest event, impacting prompt response.

Street Sweeper Cost Analysis	
Description	Annual Cost
Rented Street Sweeper (\$14,000 / month):	\$168,000
Major One-time Event (per year):	\$50,000
Annual Rental Total:	\$218,000
Average Lifespan (4 to 8 years):	
	5
Rental Cost / Additional Emergency Sweeping (5 years):	\$1,090,000
Purchase New Street Sweeper:	\$480,000

Equipment Comparison:

Staff contacted Haaker Equipment Company to request quotes for different equipment types. This company provides pricing pursuant to a cooperative purchasing agreement through Sourcewell. By utilizing this cooperative pricing schedule, the City is assured of the best pricing on quality products. Accordingly, staff dispensed further bidding pursuant to Palm Desert Municipal Code Section 3.30.160(E).

The table below assumes purchasing a mechanical broom street sweeper with the capacity of over four-cubic yards, which aligns with best practices. The table is also categorized by power source, delivery time and contract price. Please note that the contract prices cover direct costs (e.g., equipment and initial training) but not indirect costs (e.g., maintenance and spare parts).

Equipment Comparison		
Power Source	Delivery Time	Contract Price
Electric	12 Months	\$ 974,850.89
CNG	12-18 Months	\$ 573,395.94
Diesel	Immediately	\$ 454,194.27

Equipment Comparison:

Staff recommends the purchase of an Elgin Broom Bear Street Sweeper (diesel) from Haaker Equipment Company in an amount totaling \$454,194.27. The recommendation also incorporates a contingency of \$25,000 for additional brooms and unforeseen fees. The recommendation of this model is based upon several factors including:

- Immediate Availability: The street sweeper is readily available for purchase with no lead time, ensuring swift deployment to address occurrences of windborne sand events. In fact, this is the last remaining diesel street sweeper inventory, and newer model diesel street sweepers are prohibited for municipal fleet sale in California beginning 2024.
- Reduced Upfront Expenses: As displayed, the diesel street sweeper has significantly lower upfront expenses compared to electric and CNG alternatives.
- Reliability in Emergency Situations: In emergency situations, a diesel-powered sweeper is more reliable than electric and CNG alternatives. It can operate independently during grid failures or prolonged operations, ensuring continued functionality.
- Proven Suitability for Desert Communities: Mechanical broom sweepers are suited for desert communities like Palm Desert. They are designed to effectively clean and remove sand and debris, addressing the unique challenges posed by windborne sand events.

Legal Review:

This report has been reviewed by the City Attorney’s office.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

The approved Capital Improvement Project (CIP) List for Fiscal Year 2023/24 includes a total of \$480,000 for the purchase of various equipment as follows:

Account / Equipment	Budget	Actual Cost	Estimated Cost	Balance
EV Carpools	\$150,000	Pending	\$100,000	
Graffiti Truck	\$110,000	Pending	\$150,000	
Concrete Truck	\$100,000	\$124,138.36		
Dump Trailer	\$20,000	\$15,201.65		
Mini Excavator	\$60,000	\$54,537.01		
Utility Golf Cart	\$40,000	\$33,560.82		
Cost Total		\$227,437.84	\$250,000	
FY 23/24 Total	\$480,000		\$477,437.84	\$2,562.16
Street Sweeper Appropriation				\$479,194.27
Account Total				\$481,756.43

Staff requests an appropriation to Account No. 5304310-4403000 to cover the cost of the sweeper.

City of Palm Desert
Authorize Purchase of Street Sweeper

Appropriation Necessary	
Unit Price	\$428,712.00
Government Discount (Sourcewell)	(\$ 7,186.00)
Sales Tax (7.75%)	\$ 32,668.27
Total Purchase Price:	\$454,194.27
Contingency	\$ 25,000.00
Total Appropriation Request:	\$479,194.27

ATTACHMENTS:

1. CVAG Vendor Routes (Bi-weekly)
2. Product Information
3. Vendor Quote