

Capitola City Council

Agenda Report



Meeting: January 13, 2022

From: Public Works Department

Subject: Authorize Purchase of a New Street Sweeper for the Department of Public Works

Recommended Action: Authorize the expenditure of up to \$350,000 for the purchase of a new Global Regenerative Air streetsweeper for the Public Works Department.

Background: The Department of Public Works operates a street sweeper five days a week to remove leaves and debris from city streets. Doing so also prevents oils, greases, and other pollutants from washing into the storm drain system and ultimately into the creek and bay. The City operates a single sweeper and keeps an older sweeper in the inventory for backup and parts. The current sweeper was purchased in 2014 and has 7,000 hours on the engine. Due to the continued use, the sweeper has required extensive reconstructive and maintenance work over the past two years to remain operational. In the past, the City has purchased a new sweeper on a five year cycle, but delayed this purchase to allow staff to complete a review of available sweepers.

Discussion: Public Works recommends the City purchase a Series 3 Sweeper from Global Environmental Products. The Global Series 3 sweeper is a three-wheel sweeper that has proven to be excellent in navigating the narrow and crowded streets of Capitola. Other sweepers on the market are either four-wheel vehicles that have a large turning radius or are too small to be effective.

For this purchase Public Works recommends switching to a generative air vacuum sweeper that relies on suction, rather than mechanical sweeping, to remove the debris. Staff believe this switch will reduce wear on the machine and reduce the annual maintenance and sweeper brooms costs.

The current cost of a new diesel engine powered sweeper is \$285,000 (Attachment 1). Global Environmental Products recently released an all-electric sweeper, at the cost of \$579,000 (Attachment 2). The Department investigated and received quotes from other street sweeper vendors, but no other vendor had a machine that met the department's needs.

Staff has reached out to Central Coast Community Energy (3CE) to see if they have a program to cover the additional cost for the electric sweeper. In response to our request, in December the 3CE Operations Board of Directors authorized the development of program to provide \$250,000 of funding for member agencies to purchase heavy duty electric vehicles. The program will be discussed at a 3CE Policy Board meeting in February and if approved and funded it could pay most of the cost differential between the diesel sweeper and the electric vehicle.

Staff's recommendation to authorized up to \$350,000 for the sweeper purchase will provide the flexibility of buying the electric sweeper if the 3CE program is approved, or if the program is not approved will pay for the purchase of the diesel sweeper.

Fiscal Impact: The purchase will be made with funding in the Equipment Replacement Internal Service Fund. The fund balance as of June 30, 2021, is \$684,836. Approved expenditures include \$170,000 for two Police patrol vehicles and a Public Works truck, leaving a balance of \$524,836.

This balance includes \$105,000 from FY 2019-20 and \$100,000 from FY 2021-22 for the purchase of a new sweeper in addition to \$200,000 from FY 2020-21 that was not designated for any specific equipment purchase.

Attachments:

1. Diesel street sweeper quotation from November 2021
2. Electric street sweeper quotation from November 2021

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Approved By: Jamie Goldstein, City Manager