



**TOWN OF LOS GATOS
COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT**

MEETING DATE: 11/16/2021

ITEM NO: 12

DATE: November 11, 2021

TO: Mayor and Town Council

FROM: Laurel Prevetti, Town Manager

SUBJECT: Authorize the Town Manager to Purchase Three Police Patrol Vehicles from Folsom Lake Ford in and Amount Not to Exceed \$125,037

RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize the Town Manager to purchase three police patrol vehicles from Folsom Lake Ford in an amount not to exceed \$125,037.

BACKGROUND:

As part of the Fiscal Year 2021/22 Operating Budget, the Equipment Replacement Fund was approved, providing funds for replacement of high mileage or older vehicles that have reached their replacement criteria or do not meet federal regulations for emissions. The Town amortizes a vehicle's replacement over its forecasted life and sets funds aside on an annual basis to ensure the Equipment Replacement Fund has sufficient resources for the timely replacement of vehicles. In addition, this funding structure allows for a smoothing of operating expenditures and a more accurate reflection of the actual cost of operations.

The Town Vehicle and Equipment Acquisition and Replacement Policy (Attachment 1) determines which assets should be replaced by evaluating predetermined age and/or mileage criteria.

Fleet vehicle replacement purchases are reviewed annually through the Operating Budget and approved as part of the budget process. There are three assets recommended for replacement at this time.

PREPARED BY: Jim Harbin
Superintendent

Reviewed by: Town Manager, Assistant Town Manager, Town Attorney, Finance Director, and Director of Parks and Public Works

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DISCUSSION:

The three police pursuit interceptors recommended for replacement are approaching four years of age and will have an average of 60,000 miles usage at the time of replacement. With the current backlog of computer chips along with the delays caused by the pandemic, lead times for purchasing and equipping vehicles have greatly increased resulting in increased age and mileage.

Ford Motor Company has produced a pursuit rated hybrid vehicle for police patrol purposes since 2020. The hybrid system reduces fuel consumption and expenditures, carbon dioxide emissions, and maintenance costs. Extensive idle times make hybrid technology ideal for law enforcement. While stopped, the lithium hybrid batteries power lights, radios, laptops, and other on-board electrical demands. The hybrid engine can shut off intermittently, self-starting to charge the battery when needed. This compares with the current need for police patrol vehicles to idle for extended periods, for example while on the scene of an incident. The Town, along with neighboring Police Departments such as Santa Clara, San Jose, and others have recently opted to move toward the hybrid system based on performance and overall cost of operation.

In accordance with the Town's Purchasing Policy, Section 7c (Cooperative Purchasing), the purchase of these vehicles is based on a formal bid process completed by the State of California Department of General Services, which allows for other municipalities to purchase vehicles using their formal bid proposal documents (Attachment 2)

CONCLUSION:

Authorize the Town Manager to purchase three police patrol vehicles from Folsom Lake Ford in an amount not to exceed \$125,037.

ALTERNATIVES:

Alternatively, the Town Council could direct staff to delay replacement of the vehicles. Staff does not recommend this alternative as the vehicles are reaching the end of their useful life and the lack of replacement vehicles will impact daily productivity operations.

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FISCAL IMPACT:

There are sufficient funds available in the Equipment Replacement Fund to purchase these vehicles.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT:

This is not a project defined under CEQA, and no further action is required.

Attachments:

1. Town Vehicle and Equipment Acquisition and Replacement Policy
2. Bid Proposal Document