



City of Needles, California Request for City Council Action

☐ CITY COUNCIL ☒ NPUA ☐ HACN

☒ Regular ☐ Special

Meeting Date: July 14, 2026

Title: Authorize the Purchase of one (1) Pole/Reel/Dump Trailer from Brooks Brothers Trailers not to exceed \$55,060, utilizing the Electric Asset Replacement Fund

Background: The City of Needles Electric Department is requesting funding to purchase a new combination wire and pole trailer and a new dump trailer to support emergency response and routine utility maintenance operations. The department currently relies on separate wire and pole trailers that were purchased in the early 1970s. Both trailers have exceeded their useful life, are in poor condition, and are becoming increasingly unreliable and costly to maintain.

During emergency situations, the existing equipment requires two separate vehicles and additional staff to transport utility poles and wire reels to repair sites. This process is inefficient and delays response times during power outages and other critical incidents. The proposed combination trailer will allow utility poles and wire reels to be transported simultaneously, reducing the number of vehicles and personnel needed while significantly improving operational efficiency and emergency response capabilities.

The new trailers are specifically designed for utility operations and will streamline the transportation of materials to job sites, reducing setup time and allowing crews to focus on completing repairs more effectively. Additionally, the trailers include enhanced safety features such as self-locking winches and stabilizing jacks, which improve safety during loading, unloading, and transport. These features minimize the risk of accidents and ensure that materials are securely handled and transported.

The purchase of this equipment will improve the reliability, efficiency, and safety of the City of Needles Electric Department's operations and will enhance the department's ability to respond quickly to emergencies and maintain critical electrical infrastructure for the community.

The Board of Public Utilities approved the recommended action on July 7, 2026.

Fiscal Impact: The total cost, including freight and shipping, is \$51,100; sales tax of 7.75% is \$3,960.25 for a total price of \$55,060 to be funded by the Electric Asset Replacement Fund, which has a balance of approximately \$3M. The vehicle registration for the trailer will be funded by the adopted FY2027 electric O&M budget.

Environmental Impact: None

Recommended Action: Authorize the Purchase of one (1) Pole/Reel/Dump Trailer from Brooks Brothers Trailers not to exceed \$55,060, utilizing the Electric Asset Replacement Fund

Submitted By: Justin Scott, Linecrew Supervisor

City Manager Approval: Patrick J. Martinez

Date: 7/8/2026

Other Department Approval (when required): Mark C. DeMay, CGFM

Date: 07/08/26