



CITY OF ORLAND STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: October 1, 2024

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Councilmembers

FROM: Zach Barber, Director of Public Works

SUBJECT: **Replacement Capital Expense: Vac-con Equipment** (Discussion/Action)

BACKGROUND:

The City has two combination jetter and hydro-evacuation machines in its rolling stock, one older (2004, white) machine and one newer (2015, blue) machine.

- The jetter function enables fast, safe break-up of soils when digging, and powerful cleaning of sewer lines and storm drain lines.
- The hydro-excavation function adds an industrial vacuum tool to excavation work, enabling precise and fast digging of holes and trenches.
- Some jurisdictions use one machine or the other; we find it most efficient to have two machines featuring both applications. We tend to utilize the older white model for rough excavation (workhorse) and the newer model for precision digging, inspection and cleaning. Both are used every week -- sometimes every day -- for water, sewer, storm drain and other digging jobs.

Trailer-mounted units are available at lower cost, but Orland has found it cost-effective to have the fully functional dual-engine machines ready to go on its own wheels, able to be positioned into something challenging locations. The City does use a trailer-mounted camera tool for inside of pipe inspection.

Vac-Con is a west coast company and is clearly the industry standard of this specialized, critical equipment; our mechanics are familiar with Vac-con machinery operation and maintenance.

ANALYSIS:

The Public Works & Safety Commission considered this capital equipment topic recently and voted unanimously to recommend Council approve the purchase. Our older Vac-Con is well past its expected useful life and is becoming an expensive maintenance liability. Replacement is due, at which time our 2015 model would become the workhorse machine. It is past its warranty but is still proactively maintained and running well.

More info on the model we are proposing is at:

<https://vac-con.com/new-trucks/dual-engine-combination-machine/>

Attachments:

Graphic of typical dual-engine combination Vac-con

Proposal from Vac-con for purchase of one dual-engine combination jetter-excavator machine

RECOMMENDATION:

Proceed with purchase of one Vac-con machine as proposed and recommended by Public Works & Safety Commission and Director of Public Works.

FISCAL IMPACT OF RECOMMENDATION:

\$497,043 allocated 30% to Sewer Fund, 70% to Water/Storm Drainage Fund.