

MEMORANDUM

TO: City Council
FROM: Greg Springman, Public Works Director
Brandon Neish, Finance Director
DATE: August 11, 2020
SUBJECT: Street Sweeper Evaluation



After 11 years of service in the City of Sweet Home (and additional years as a sweeper for Lebanon), the Public Works Street Sweeper is in desperate need of repairs that exceed the current value of the equipment. A 1997 IH 4700 TYMCO 600, the City's only street sweeper is currently not operational and will take a significant amount of time and materials to get the street sweeper back on the road. With the sweeper offline, the City's streets are susceptible to a buildup of dirt, grime and other hazards that pose both environmental and cosmetic concerns. Additionally, safety is a concern as the sweeper is often used to sweep after traffic accidents or during the fall season to keep the City's storm drains clear and preventing localized flooding that can impact nearby properties.

The estimated value of the street sweeper is approximately \$4,500 when operational. Based on its current condition, the resale value is lower and likely be purchased for parts. To repair the sweeper, the City's Mechanic, Tommy Robey, estimates that \$13,500 in parts are needed just to get the sweeper back on the road plus the labor to make the repairs. Another \$4,500 in materials would be necessary in the near future to ensure continued operation. In total (time and materials), \$23,000 would be spent to extend the life of the current sweeper for another 3-5 years (at best). A list of the repairs and estimated costs is included on the following page.

Given the extensive repairs that are needed, staff has also reviewed alternative options for the street sweeper. The City could choose to repair the current sweeper, thereby extending its useful life for a period of time. Subsequently, the City could also replace the street sweeper by purchasing a new unit. A quote obtained under the City's purchasing guidelines lists a new sweeper at \$160,100. According to the U.S. Department of Transportation, the useful lifespan of a sweeper is generally four to seven years from time of purchase to minimize overall cost of ownership. If the City were to purchase a new sweeper, it could either be purchased outright (requiring Council action to authorize funds) or the City could lease a unit which would then fall within existing expenditure authority. If the City were to take this path, a reserve would be set up for the eventual replacement.

The City's other option to address sweeping needs is to contract with a local government organization or independent contractor. While this option has pros (lower cost, no costly equipment repairs, etc.), it would also limit the work that would be completed. Contracting this service would likely limit sweeping to once a month and would not be available on demand for project cleanup or accidents.

Staff is looking for a direction from the City Council on the best way to move forward. The street sweeper is a vital piece of equipment which provides multiple benefits to Public Works.

Repairs List

Part	Labor estimate (hours)	Materials cost estimate
Box shell*	N/A	\$37,000
Hopper (box) repair	60-100	800
Hopper parts/fittings	10-24	5,000
Water system	16-24	1,200
Front end repairs	N/A	1,800
Pickup hood replacement	N/A	~ 3,500
Suction/pressure tubes		1,000
Rear dump door	5-8	200
Replace driver side mirror	.75	20
Lift pump	8-16	Unkn
Brooms/pickup head	Unkn	4,500
Rear arrow board (notification lights)	Unkn	Unkn

* Box shell replacement would eliminate the need for repairs to the Hopper