

Council Agenda Statement

Meeting Date: October 20, 2026
To: City Council
Through: Jackie C. Wilde, City Manager
From: Shelby Carlson, Assistant City Manager
Agenda Item: Authorizing the Sale of Surplus Equipment by Competitive Bid per WMC 3.36.410(C)



BACKGROUND, JUSTIFICATION, & INTENT:

The Public Works Department has identified heavy equipment that is surplus to the City's needs and therefore candidates to be disposed. Whittier Municipal Code 3.36.410(C) requires that personal property items valued in excess of \$25,000 be disposed of by Ordinance. The City intends to solicit competitive sealed bids for the sale of three surplus items with values in excess of \$25,000. The sale of these items will take place concurrently with the sale of City equipment disposed of via Resolution.

The Administration recommends use of a Reserve amount for the sale of these items due to the potential range of bids. The Reserve amount will not be published in order to avoid limiting the range of potential bids to a lower bid. If the reserve price is not met, the City is not required to sell the item, even to the highest bidder. The rationale for establishing a hidden Reserve rather than a minimum bid, is that by listing a minimum bid, the City may encourage unnecessarily low bids, whereas someone interested in purchasing an item may consider offering a higher bid if they are not influenced by a lower published minimum bid.

CONSISTENCY CHECKLIST:

	Yes	No	N/A
1. Comprehensive Plan: <i>p. 84 encourages the clean-up of boats, equipment, tires, and junk from City property to enhance beautification efforts and reduce blight.</i>	☒	☐	☐
2. Whittier Code: 3.36.410(C) <i>"The city council shall, by ordinance, determine which method or methods specified in this section shall be used for disposal of personal property valued at more than \$25,000." (e.g. public outcry to highest bidder; public sealed bid to highest bidder; best qualified response to RFP; educational, religious, charitable or nonprofit association or corporation providing services to residents of Whittier; or other government.</i>	☒	☐	☐
3. Other	☐	☐	☒

FISCAL NOTE: Proceeds from the sale of the heavy equipment will be placed in the Public Works equipment Fund (F14).

ATTORNEY REVIEW: ☐ Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable

RECOMMENDATION: The Administration recommends the Council authorize the disposal of the surplus equipment by sealed bid.