

CITY OF SANTA ROSA
CITY COUNCIL

TO: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
FROM: RAINER J. NAVARRO, CHIEF OF POLICE
CHUCK MCBRIDE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER, FINANCE
DEPARTMENT
BRANDALYN TRAMEL, PURCHASING AGENT, FINANCE
DEPARTMENT
SUBJECT: BLANKET PURCHASE ORDER WITH AXON ENTERPRISE, INC.
FOR THE PURCHASE OF TASER 7 EQUIPMENT AND LICENSE
THROUGH THE NPPGOV COOPERATIVE PURCHASE
AGREEMENT

AGENDA ACTION: RESOLUTION

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended by the Police and Finance Departments that the Council, by resolution, approve issuance of a Blanket Purchase Order with Axon Enterprise, Inc., Scottsdale, Arizona for the purchase of Taser 7 equipment and applicable licensing for a five-year period under National Purchasing Partners (NPPGov) Cooperative Agreement Contract No. VH11630, in an amount not to exceed \$666,491.40.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The cooperative purchase agreement allows for the purchase of all Taser 7 equipment and accessories, and licenses for the Police Department, for a 6% total cost savings based on trade-in credit and economy of scale. The term of the Agreement is five years.

BACKGROUND

The Conducted Electronic Weapon (CEW) was developed in the mid -'70s by Jack Cover, though it has undergone several iterations since its first design. The Santa Rosa Police Department has been using CEWs since 2003.

As a less-lethal use of force option, sworn personnel of the Santa Rosa Police Department are issued CEWs. They have been a standard issue of equipment for the department for nearly two decades. Over the course of that time, three models have been purchased to outfit each officer and to keep current with technology advancements. Each model has been purchased from the same manufacturer (Axon Enterprise, formerly Taser International) and each has had a recommended useful life

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expectancy of five years. The current inventory is beyond the useful life recommendations and a majority of the devices will no longer be supported by the manufacturer at the end of 2019.

Currently, the organization is equipped with two versions of a CEW. The oldest of the two was purchased in 2008 and is assigned to 48% of sworn personnel. The newer of the two was purchased in 2013 and is assigned to 52% of sworn personnel. Standard practice has been to replenish inventory with the latest model to address new hires and failed equipment. With the end of support at the end of the 2019, it is imperative to move forward with upgrading the devices.

Standardization is important with this type of equipment, and the new devices will require training because they function differently than the current models. The new model, the TASER 7, encompasses several advanced features which include rechargeable batteries, software licenses for automatic data downloads, and live cartridges for either close or distant subject encounters. The purchase includes all necessary patrol-ready hardware and a variety of training components to achieve officer fluency.

PRIOR CITY COUNCIL REVIEW

N/A

ANALYSIS

Research for additional manufacturers of CEWs was conducted by the Police Department and concluded with the following: 1) A company based out of the state of Kansas has earned a patent to design a comparable less-than-lethal device, however the prototype is unavailable at this time for evaluation; and 2) An international group based out of Turkey promotes an electronic control weapon, however they were unresponsive to requests for information; 3) Axon Enterprises is the only manufacturer that has devices that are specific to law enforcement use.

NPPGov is a national cooperative procurement organization based in Seattle, WA offering publicly solicited contracts to government entities nationwide. NPPGov contracts are created through a public solicitation by a Lead Public Agency. Under the NPP cooperative contract, all equipment and applicable licenses for use will remain at a fixed price for a period of five years, including ongoing license requirements.

The NPPGov lead agency is the Public Procurement Authority (PPA). The PPA was formed to provide procurement opportunities to its members, as well as members participating in the National Purchasing Partners (NPPGov) national cooperative purchasing program. State statutes generally allow government entities to use contracts that have been competitively solicited by a different government entity even if it is in a different state.

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This contract is available for use by the City of Santa Rosa as a cooperative purchase agreement, which is allowed by City Code Section 3.08-160 when advantageous to the City. Utilizing a cooperative purchase agreement is an expedited procurement process, volume purchasing discounts, on-duty professional staff assistance, research of technical specifications, and contract management.

The City would begin using the NPPGov contract on August 2, 2019 through August 1, 2024. Axon is offering an additional 6% total discount savings on the first year for old equipment trade-in.

FISCAL IMPACT

Funds for this expense are included in Fiscal Year 19-20.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

This action is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) because it is not a project which has a potential for resulting in either a direct physical change in the environment or a foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment pursuant to CEQA guideline section 15378.

BOARD/COMMISSION/COMMITTEE REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Not applicable

NOTIFICATION

Not applicable

ATTACHMENTS

Resolution

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