

REPORT TO THE CITY COUNCIL



DATE: April 3, 2018

TITLE: Purchase of One Fully Equipped BMW Police Motorcycle and One Motor Officer's Uniform

Prepared by: Dale R. Mondary, Chief of Police

RECOMMENDATION

Accept the lowest bid from BMW Motorcycles of Riverside in the amount of \$33,983.58 along with the cost of graphics and Motorola radio and specialized helmet for a total amount of \$42,498.83 and authorize the City Manager to make the proper budget adjustment of \$3,000.00 to the Police Department Budget to purchase the uniforms.

BACKGROUND

It has been nearly ten years since the Police Department had a motorcycle officer dedicated specifically to traffic enforcement. Currently, due to staffing, no officer is dedicated solely to traffic enforcement. As a result, statistics show an increase in vehicle vs. pedestrian traffic collisions over the past ten (10) years, with 2014 being the highest year, with 22 reported collisions. Additionally, over the past 15 years there have been 22 fatal traffic collisions in the City. The majority of the collisions occurred in the business district of the City on the Palm Drive corridor or its arteries. Most recently, a complaint arose of pedestrians crossing Palm Drive near the Vons shopping center. Patrol officers have conducted enforcement in the area but it has been limited, as priority calls for service take precedent. However, over a three-week period Officers issued over 20 J-Walking citations.

DISCUSSION

In its most recent history the Police Department has not been able to dedicate a traffic enforcement officer due to staffing and call for service issues. The Police Department has resolved the staffing issue and is now prepared to dedicate an Officer whose primary responsibility will be traffic enforcement and traffic education.

While the Department does have a marked patrol car equipped with speed radar detection, the volume of traffic on Palm Drive coupled with the design of the roadway (most specifically the raised medians) it is not conducive to allow maximum enforcement efforts and officer safety.

The Police Department is requesting the allocation of \$45,326.20 to purchase a police motorcycle and the required accoutrements. The Police Department will assign a Certified Motorcycle Officer to become a motor officer whose primary focus would be to conduct traffic enforcement and traffic education. Moreover, a motorcycle is quicker and more maneuverable than a patrol unit, and able to catch up to and stop violators in heavy traffic. Education and enforcement efforts will reduce not only vehicle vs. pedestrian traffic collisions, but also decrease speeding motorists on Palm Drive, which is the primary collision factor in the majority of traffic collisions.

FISCAL IMPACT

A thorough analysis was conducted on the various motorcycles in use, specifically in the desert environment and the industry standard is a BMW R1200RT-P Authority Motorcycle. The Police Department then requested bids from several vendors and received three qualified bids. One from BMW Motorcycles of Riverside in the amount of \$33,983.58. One from BMW of Long Beach for \$35,231.00 and one from Escondido BMW in the amount of \$35,242.11.

There is an additional cost of \$175.00 for graphics and \$8,340.25 for a Motorola radio and specialized motorcycle helmet equipped with Bluetooth in order to communicate to dispatch and other officers.

There is an additional estimated cost of \$3,000.00 for a Motor Officer Uniform-Mesh jacket, trousers, boots and gloves.

The cost of the motorcycle and equipment required to outfit the motorcycle can be paid from Development Impact Fee (DIF) monies and have no impact on the City General Budget. The \$3,000.00 for specialized uniforms would be a minimal cost to the General Fund Budget.

EXHIBIT(S)

- 1) BMW of Motorcycles of Riverside quote
- 2) BMW of Long Beach quote
- 3) BMW of Escondido quote
- 4) PVP Communications quote (Motor Helmet)
- 5) Motorola Solutions quote (All band MP mobile unit)
- 6) Top of the line signs quote (Graphics)
- 7) Photographs of example motorcycle