



Agenda Item #: \_\_\_\_\_

# Staff Report

## City of Manhattan Beach

**TO:** Honorable Mayor Ward and Members of the City Council

**THROUGH:** Geoff Dolan, City Manager

**FROM:** Dennis Groat, Fire Chief

**DATE:** February 7, 2006

**SUBJECT:** Donation of surplus fire engine to Santa Rosalia Mexico, Sister City of Manhattan Beach

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**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends that the Mayor and City Council approves the donation of our surplus 1978 fire engine to our Sister City Santa Rosalia

**FISCAL IMPLICATION:**

If the City were to sell this engine, the scrap value is approximately \$5,000. This 1978 fire engine has far exceeded its predicted service life of 20 years. Its value is mainly for parts, as the manufacturer has been out of business for many years and this engine is no longer considered reliable for frontline municipal service.

**BACKGROUND:**

Over the past twelve years, two other used fire engines have been declared surplus in our City, and these engines were donated to the Basic Fire Academy program at El Camino College.

**DISCUSSION:**

With the recent purchase of a new fire engine for Fire Station 1, the Fire Department's 1978 fire engine is no longer needed for reserve use, and it has been declared surplus. Although this engine has some value on the used market, its value would be primarily to use for parts for similar fire engines. The manufacturer has been out of business for many years, and after 28 years of service, this engine is no longer considered reliable or suitable for front-line emergency use in active municipal fire departments. However, it would be of great value if used in our Sister City, as they currently have no fire engines and therefore very limited firefighting capability. In the small, isolated community of Santa Rosalia, this engine could provide a significant enhancement in emergency response capabilities, and with limited use it will likely give them a reasonable length of emergency service. Additionally, the Department is concerned that if this vehicle is sold to another agency in the United States and used as an emergency response vehicle, its well-used condition limits reliability and could create liability issues for our City. The donation of this fire engine to our Sister City in Baja, Mexico would significantly diminish this liability issue.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

Provide further direction to Staff