



Agenda Item #: _____

Staff Report

City of Manhattan Beach

TO: Honorable Mayor Fahey and Members of the City Council

THROUGH: Geoff Dolan, City Manager

FROM: Bruce Moe, Finance Director
Gwen Eng, General Services Manager

DATE: May 17, 2005

SUBJECT: Authorize the Purchase of One Replacement Battalion Chief Vehicle for the Fire Department from George Chevrolet (\$35,045.94)

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the City Council award RFB #650-05R to George Chevrolet in the amount of \$35,045.94 for the budgeted replacement of one Fire Department Battalion Chief vehicle.

FISCAL IMPLICATION:

Funds totaling \$75,000 are budgeted in the FY 2004-2005 Fleet Management Fund for the purchase and equipping of this vehicle. The remaining funds will be used to outfit the vehicle with the customary emergency equipment, which includes emergency response lights and sirens, communications equipment, GPS mapping and navigation system, traffic signal preemption device, backup accident avoidance sensors, on-board video recorder, and a power management system.

DISCUSSION:

During the FY 2004-2005 Budget process, Council authorized the replacement of a Battalion Chief vehicle. The new vehicle, a Chevrolet Suburban, replaces unit #701, a 1986 Suburban with 92,000 miles. This vehicle is showing signs of age, is experiencing transmission failure, and is no longer economically feasible to maintain.

The Chevrolet Suburban is the industry standard for a Fire Department command unit. This vehicle is operated by the Duty Battalion Chief (B/C) and is designed and equipped to function as an Incident Command Post (ICP). At the scene of an incident, the B/C operates out of the back of the vehicle, which is fully outfitted as a mobile office with full data and communications capabilities. In addition, it must allow space for the B/C's personal protective equipment including self contained breathing apparatus, first aid supplies, automatic external defibrillators (AED), fire extinguishers, firefighting tools, and equipment. The vehicle is also used to lead and coordinate (5 fire engine) strike teams when responding to regional wildfires.

Historically, the City has purchased its vehicles by utilizing larger agencies' existing contracts. This is done because the State of California, L.A. County, and other large agencies purchase in greater quantities and consequently obtain preferential pricing. However, none were available that met the City's specifications; therefore, staff solicited bids independently.

Bid Recaps

A total of 9 vendors were sent formal bid requests and 4 responses were received. The comparison below shows total price (including sales tax, discounts, and other fees).

<u>Bidder</u>	<u>Total Bid</u>
1. George Chevrolet	\$35,045.94
2. Martin Chevrolet	\$38,852.05
3. Selman Chevrolet	No bid
4. Sopp Truck Center	No bid

Based on these bids, staff recommends Council award an order to George Chevrolet. While we received only two bids for this requirement, we believe that re-bidding to obtain further bids would not be fruitful since the manufacturer's cutoff date for orders is drawing near. If this is delayed, we would be required to wait until August/September for the opportunity to order a new model year vehicle at an increased cost.

If this purchase is approved, the existing unit will be surplus and auctioned for the highest attainable value. The new vehicle will arrive in 8 weeks.