



DATE: October 2, 2023

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council through City Manager

FROM: Dan Herrera, PE, Deputy Director of Operations, Public Works & Utilities (PW&U)
Christopher J. Bolt, MPA, PE, CPM, ICMA-CM– Director, PW&U

SUBJECT: Resolution Authorizing the Purchase of an Excavator for the Public Works & Utilities Department through Sourcewell Cooperative Purchasing Program and Authorizing the City Manager to Execute all Documents Necessary to Complete the Purchase

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the City Council adopt the attached Resolution authorizing the purchase of an excavator for the Public Works & Utilities Department through Sourcewell Cooperative Purchasing Program and authorizing the City Manager to execute all documents necessary to complete the purchase.

BACKGROUND

The Operations Division of the Public Works and Utilities Department is responsible for the maintenance and clearing of the City's numerous creeks, drainage ditches, storm conveyance systems, and open spaces. In addition to the maintenance of the City's stormwater conveyance systems, the operations division is also responsible for the maintenance of the City's water distribution system and wastewater collection system. These maintenance activities often require excavation of trenches and pits to repair and replace broken or leaking pipes and services. While the Operations Division has heavy-duty excavation equipment for large-scale operations, it lacks the type of equipment necessary for the sensitive nature of creek and culvert maintenance, or pipe replacement in closed corridors. In order to perform these duties, staff often must rent equipment appropriate for the type of work required. These rental costs can be expensive and are subject to the availability of the rental agency. The new excavator will be a vital part of the Operations Division and will be utilized to complete necessary creek and stormwater conveyance maintenance activities, as well as water and sewer pipeline repairs.

DISCUSSION

The City's Creek Maintenance Program, adopted in 2017, outlines the plan for the maintenance of approximately 10.85 miles of open channels and natural creeks. These maintenance activities include sediment removal, vegetation and tree management, and trash removal. The sensitive nature of the creek and open channel environment requires specialized equipment in order to access the constrained areas and minimize the impact of the equipment on the surrounding environment. The City does not currently have this specialized equipment and must rent the equipment to perform the necessary duties. The new excavator will be compact in nature and have specialized attachments to allow for unique maintenance activities for vegetation clearing and sediment removal. In addition to creek maintenance activities, the new excavator will be utilized by operations crews to perform water and sewer pipeline repairs and replacements. Often these pipeline repairs are located in tight quarters or constrained easement areas. The new excavator will be utilized for these activities where conventional backhoes or excavators are not appropriate.

As for the procurement strategy, the City of Petaluma is a member of the Sourcewell Cooperative Purchasing Program (Formerly National Joint Powers Alliance), which provides the City the opportunity to access competitively awarded, nationally leveraged cooperative purchasing contracts. The purchase of specialized equipment provides better prices on state and national cooperative lists since local vendors do not sell this type of specialized equipment. Participating in this competitively bid and awarded statewide purchasing program complies with the Petaluma Municipal Code, Section 4.04.100 (Cooperative purchasing programs), which supports the purchases of supplies and equipment made under a cooperative purchasing program with the State, County, or other public agencies that have been competitively bid and awarded.

The following is provided as background information on the cooperative purchasing program. Sourcewell is continuously refining its Request for Proposal process to meet its members' needs, which will meet or exceed those needs. Sourcewell identifies its members' needs by regular outreach, through advisory committees, and by researching the best approaches. After member needs are established, permission to develop the solicitation and procurement process is sought from its publicly elected Board of Directors. A draft solicitation is created and publicly advertised and noticed. A pre-conference is held to clarify and answer questions. If needed, addendums are issued. Proposals are date-stamped when received. The evaluation of the proposals received by the bid closing date and time is done by a committee and the findings are given to the Chief Procurement Officer.

Sourcewell and Fleets for the Future (F4F) have created a partnership to coordinate the increased procurement of alternative fuel vehicles (AFV) throughout the United States. F4F is a national partnership of regional councils, Clean Air coalitions, and industry experts. Their purpose is to coordinate five regional and one national procurement initiatives to consolidate bulk orders of AFV. This helps to disseminate best practices, usage, and procurement strategies for vehicle selection and assists with vehicle cost reduction.

The price for the excavator is \$81,268.56 under the Sourcewell Cooperative Purchasing program and is based on competitive bidding conducted by Sourcewell, with a bid awarded to Kubota

Tractor Corporation (Sourcewell Contract #040319-KBA) and purchased through their approved vendor, Garton Tractor, Inc.

Kubota Tractor Corporation is a trusted compact-class construction equipment manufacturer and highly reviewed. The new excavator will be a diesel vehicle, using renewable diesel fuel and continuing the City's efforts to achieve climate action goals.

PUBLIC OUTREACH

This agenda item appeared on the City's tentative agenda document on September 18, 2023, which was a publicly-noticed meeting.

COUNCIL GOAL ALIGNMENT

This proposed action supports the FY 21 through FY 23 City Council Goals and Priorities and the following Workplan items:

- #42 "Find ways for City Operations to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, conserve water, decrease waste, and minimize the use of fossil fuels and investigate and pursue options for carbon sequestration."
- #203 "Impose a moratorium on City purchases of fossil fuel-powered vehicles, power equipment, and appliances, with limited exceptions for emergency vehicles and equipment when no low climate pollution causing alternatives are reasonably available."

CLIMATE ACTION/SUSTAINABILITY EFFORTS

Research into electric and alternative energy excavators was conducted through online research, peer-reviewed articles, and contacting compact-class construction equipment providers. There are currently no electric motors or equipment available for a truck of this type. To meet climate action goals, a renewable diesel engine was selected as the motor for the vehicle.

Finally, this action supports California law SB 32, which requires a 40% reduction in GHG emissions below 1990 levels by 2030. As such this project aligns with the climate action and sustainability efforts the City has been making to become carbon neutral. The excavator will utilize renewable diesel, which has a negligible operational greenhouse gas impact.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

The proposed action is exempt under the common-sense exemption, California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3), as the use of an excavator will reduce emissions from an equivalent internal combustion vehicle that the City currently rents and uses. Additionally, this item is exempt pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15301 (Existing Facilities) as the City already uses a similar item which is necessary to maintain City infrastructure.

FINANCIAL IMPACTS

The purchase of the excavator is included in the approved FY 23/24 budget using the Storm Water Fund. The approved budget is \$110,000, which is sufficient for the purchase price of the excavator.

The costs of the Kubota Excavator quoted by Garton Tractor, Inc. are below (including taxes and fees):

Type:	Diesel Engine Excavator
Vehicle Chassis:	Kubota KX040-4R3TP
Module/Options/Chassis w/ Sourcewell Discount:	\$68,351.36
Freight and PDI:	\$ 1,250.00
Misc.:	\$ 4,616.50
Taxes:	\$ 7,050.70
Total Advertised Price:	\$81,268.56

ALTERNATIVES

Alternatives considered but not recommended include:

1. Purchase or lease of internal combustion equivalent for this class of vehicle. This option is not recommended as it fails to meet the City Council's goals regarding reducing fossil fuel use in the City fleet and does not positively contribute to the City's 2030 carbon neutrality goal established in the Climate Emergency Framework.
2. Do not replace the vehicles and continue to not meet operational duties and responsibilities.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Resolution
2. Quote from Garton Tractor, Inc.