



DATE: May 1, 2023

TO: Mayor and Members of the City Council
President and Members of the Estero Municipal Improvement
District (EMID) Board of Directors

VIA: Stefan Chatwin, City/District Manager

FROM: Ramon Towne, Interim Public Works Director/City/District Engineer
Zaheed Danish, Acting Public Works Maintenance Manager
Frank Schoening, Public Works Maintenance Superintendent

DEPARTMENT: Public Works

SUBJECT: TRANSFER OF \$233,455 FROM THE WASTEWATER FUND 451
TO THE VEHICLE REPLACEMENT FUND 501, THE
APPROPRIATION OF \$415,904 FROM THE VEHICLE
REPLACEMENT FUND 501 TO ACCOUNT NO. 501-0560-431-43-
84, THE PURCHASE OF A VAC-CON VJT1500 TRUCK FOR A
TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$415,903.68 FROM VAC-CON INC.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the City Council/EMID Board of Directors adopt a resolution authorizing the following actions related to the replacement of the existing Public Works high-pressure sewer jet truck ("Sewer Jet"): 1. Approve the transfer of \$233,455 from the Wastewater Fund 451 to the Vehicle Replacement Fund 501; 2. Approve an appropriation of \$415,904 from the Vehicle Replacement Fund 501 to Vehicle Replacement Fund Account No. 501-0560-431-43-84; and 3. Approve the purchase of a Vac-Con VJT1500 high pressure Sewer Jet for a total amount of \$415,903.68 from Vac-Con Inc. and authorize the City/District Manager to approve the purchase order.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Sewer Jet is scheduled for replacement in the Vehicle Replacement Fund (VRF) in FY 2026-2027. Based on an analysis of the condition as well as the level of use of the existing vehicle, staff is recommending the early replacement of the unit in FY 2023-2024. In order to receive the vehicle in FY 2023-2024, an order must be placed in the FY 2022-2023 budget year, based on the vendor's production schedule.

As of July 1, 2023, funding in the amount of \$182,449 will have been set aside for this replacement in the Vehicle Replacement Fund. Additional funding of \$233,455 from the Wastewater Fund will be required to complete the purchase.

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS

The Sewer Jet is used daily to clean EMID's sewer system, making it possible to continuously convey wastewater. Without continuous maintenance, the system would experience backups and Sanitary Sewer Overflows (SSOs), which are not only detrimental to the efficiency of the system but are also costly regulatory violations.

The current Sewer Jet is nine (9) years old and is beginning to require maintenance and repairs frequently. The company that manufactured the unit has gone out of business, making it difficult or impossible to acquire parts for repair. The down time of this vehicle is affecting the Wastewater Division's ability to maintain the sewer system to the required standards.

Municipal Code Section 3.04.110.G authorizes purchases that use bids from other public agencies that are not older than six months as an alternative to the bidding process in the City/EMID's Purchasing Policy. The City National Auto Fleet Group utilizes Sourcewell, formerly known as National Joint Powers Association (NJPA), which was established with the statutory purpose to assist public agencies in meeting specific procurement needs which are more efficiently delivered cooperatively than by an entity individually. Staff received pricing for the Sewer Jet from the National Auto Fleet Group which has established pricing through a compliant bid process.

The City/EMID utilizes an Internal Service Fund to accumulate replacement funds for higher-cost vehicles and equipment. Because the Sewer Jet is being recommended for early replacement, sufficient funding has not yet accumulated in the Vehicle Replacement Fund for this purchase. Additional funding in the amount of \$233,455 is required from the Wastewater Fund 451, in addition to the \$182,449 that has been set aside and is available in the Vehicle Replacement Fund.

While it was originally believed that the vehicle would serve the enterprise's needs for a twelve (12) year period, that has not proven to be the case. Part of this is due to the fact that replacement parts and repairs are no longer available from the manufacturer, which has gone out of business. The build-up time for the new vehicle is anticipated to

be at least twelve (12) months, so the current vehicle will be ten (10) years old by the time the replacement is received.

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT

This purchase is not subject to review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 21000, et seq. and the CEQA Guidelines (14 Cal. Code Regs. §§ 15000 et. seq.), including without limitation, Public Resources Code section 21065 and California Code of Regulations 15378 as this is not a “project” that may cause a direct, or reasonably foreseeable indirect, physical change in the environment.

FISCAL IMPACT

The total cost of the Sewer Jet is \$415,903.68. The amount of \$182,449 will be available as of July 1, 2023, in the Vehicle Replacement Fund 501. The additional \$233,455 from Wastewater Fund 451 will provide the funding necessary to purchase the replacement Sewer Jet.

CITY COUNCIL VISION, MISSION, AND VALUE/PRIORITY AREA

Facilities and Infrastructure

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1 - City Resolution
Attachment 2 - EMID Resolution
Attachment 3 - Contract Price Sheet