

Meeting Date: 4/30/2013

Report Type: Consent

Report ID: 2013-00352



Title: Request for Proposals for New Parking Meters and Related Services [2/3 Vote Required]

Location: Citywide

Issue: The technical variances between manufacturers limit the ability of staff to provide a well-vetted recommendation. Suspending competitive bidding and using the Request for Proposal process allows the selection committee to make decisions on factors other than lowest bid.

Recommendation: Pass a motion: 1) determining it is in the best interest of the City to suspend competitive bidding; 2) suspending competitive bidding; and 3) authorizing staff to use an alternative procurement method and issue a Request for Proposals for parking meters and related services.

Contact: Mike King, Program Specialist (916) 808-1172; Howard Chan, Parking Services Manager (916) 808-7488; Department of Public Works

Presenter: None

Department: Public Works Department

Division: Parking Meter Collections

Dept ID: 15001531

Attachments:

1-Description/Analysis

2-Background

City Attorney Review

Approved as to Form
Gerald Hicks
4/19/2013 8:40:01 PM

City Treasurer Review

Reviewed for Impact on Cash and Debt
Russell Fehr
4/15/2013 1:18:49 PM

Approvals/Acknowledgements

Department Director or Designee: Jerry Way - 4/18/2013 2:08:45 PM

Description/Analysis

Issue: On August 9, 2012, City Council passed a motion directing staff to pursue parking modernization through technology/rate enhancements, expansion, and legislation. Staff's report to Council at that meeting described technology enhancements, including an upgrade of the on-street parking meters. The newest generation of single-space parking meters accepts credit cards, pay-by-phone, and other non-coin payments; provides up-to-the-minute payment information; supports texting to alert drivers to expiring time; allows rate and configuration updates to be made remotely; uses solar power; and can be equipped with vehicle detection sensors. New single-space meters will position the City to implement a demand-based pricing model by providing real-time parking statistics, one of the first steps in parking modernization. Such parking meters are currently installed in San Francisco, Los Angeles, and Santa Monica.

Single-space parking meters are produced by multiple manufacturers, and the offerings from each manufacturer vary in features, usability, reliability, maintainability, support, warranty, and life-of-service. For a standard commodities purchase, City Code chapter 3.56 dictates that an Invitation for Bid be advertised and the lowest responsible bidder be selected. The characteristics set forth above may not be reflected in a low bid. To ensure the new meters meet the needs of the City, staff recommends use of a Request for Proposals, allowing a selection committee to determine the best parking meters based on technical considerations. If more than one manufacturer offers meters that meet the needs of the City, then cost would be used as a second criterion in the selection of parking meters. This will enable the City to obtain the parking meters that provide the best value for the City, even if it is not the lowest price.

Once a manufacturer has been selected, staff will return to Council with parking meter specifications and a recommendation to approve a contract.

Policy Considerations: This recommended action is consistent with:

1. The Central City Parking Master Plan goal to leverage technology to use time limits, rates and enforcement to manage parking supply efficiently
2. The City of Sacramento 2030 General Plan's policy, M 6.1.5, to implement parking management tools (including emerging technology) that maximize on-street parking turnover, where appropriate
3. City Council's motion directing staff to pursue parking modernization through technology/rate enhancements

Environmental Considerations:

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA): This activity is not considered a project as defined by Section 15378 of CEQA. This activity involves no physical construction and, therefore, has no potential to cause a significant impact to the environment (CEQA Section 15061 (b)(3)).

Sustainability Considerations: This action supports the City of Sacramento's sustainability goals to improve and optimize the transportation infrastructure.

Other: None.

Commission/Committee Action: None.

Rationale for Recommendation: Pursuant to City Code Section 3.56.120, where the cost of supplies or nonprofessional services required by the city equals or exceeds the sum of \$100,000, the City Manager shall request that the City Clerk call for formal bids. Pursuant to City Code Section 3.56.230 (C), the City Council may suspend competitive bidding for any purchase or contract if it is in the best interests of the city. Issuing a Request for Proposal will enable staff to purchase meters that would provide the highest value to the City based on the meters' features instead of only the meters' price.

Financial Considerations: After a vendor has been selected, staff will return to Council with a recommendation to approve a purchase agreement. Financial details will be provided at that time.

Emerging Small Business Development (ESBD): Any goods or services will be purchased in accordance with established City policy.



Background Information

Currently, the City of Sacramento has a mix of old on-street parking meters including over 3,000 various single-space meters that range from eight to 25 years of age and over 300 “pay and display” multi-space meters that are between six and eight years of age. These meters are nearing, or have already surpassed, the end of their useful lives. The “pay and display” meters were selected to replace a subset of old single-space meters because, at the time of purchase, they were the only meter that could accept credit card payments. Maintenance costs for all these meters are starting to rise, and it is difficult to get parts for the older single-space meters, as the manufacturers are discontinuing support.

Today, all types of meters, including single-space meters, can accept credit card payments. In addition, single-space meters are now solar-powered, have pay-by-phone/texting capabilities, and can be equipped with vehicle detecting sensors.