



THE CITY OF KEY WEST

Post Office Box 1409 Key West, FL 33041-1409 (305) 809-3700

MEMORANDUM

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

TO: Bogdan Vitas, City Manager
E. David Fernandez, Asst. City Manager - Operations

FROM: Jay Gewin, Utilities Manager

DATE: October 19, 2012

SUBJECT: **Rehabilitation of a City Sewer Vector Truck by
Environmental Products of Florida in the Amount of \$35,227
on a Sole-Source Basis**

Action statement:

This resolution is seeking approval to rehabilitate the City's 2003 sewer vector truck by Environmental Products of Florida Corp in the amount of \$35,227.00

The agreement is executed according to City Code 2-797 (1) (b) pertaining to purchases done on a sole-source basis, as Environmental Products of Florida is the only factory-authorized parts and service center in the state.

Background:

A combination sewer cleaning (CSC) vehicle performs both pipeline jetting and vacuuming for removal of collected debris. This equipment is critical in effectively performing routine maintenance and emergency repair of sanitary sewer and stormwater collection infrastructure.

In recent years the City has expanded the stormwater collection system to include an increased number of gravity injection wells that regularly need to be cleaned in order to operate at maximum efficiency. The existing stormwater dedicated Vectors are used daily, and performs cleaning and maintenance of stormwater drainage systems. The Vectors serve a dual purpose, as they are a critical component of any underground sewer repair project.

Purpose & Justification:

This 2003 vehicle has reached a point in its lifespan where repairs are
Key to the Caribbean – Average yearly temperature 77° F.

becoming increasingly frequent as its equipment has worn down substantially due to heavy use in the field. Upon our analysis of the vehicle, City Staff and OMI believes that key portions of this vehicle can be rehabilitated. This would be a considerable savings from the cost of a new vehicle, which would be over \$250,000 including the trade-in of the older vehicle.

Sewer combination trucks have a short average life expectancy when used daily in a saltwater environment. The saltwater environment promotes rapid deterioration of all interior and exterior metal surfaces, as well as electrical and mechanical components. Through diligent maintenance, we have been able to increase the useful life of this equipment; however this 2003 vehicle has now reached the point where extensive repairs are needed to allow it to continue to function.

Environmental Products of Florida, Corp is the only factory-authorized parts and service center for this equipment in the State.

Options:

1. The City could opt to forego the repairs to the vector truck which would result in a decreased number of routine infrastructure maintenance cycles as the stormwater system expands and the sewer system ages. The City would not be able to effectively maintain recently installed wells and piping as required by Best Management Practices.
2. The City could opt to purchase a used vector truck, which would have numerous disadvantages. The life expectancy of a vector truck is relatively short under ideal service conditions. The harsh environments within which these units must operate quickly take a toll on all mechanical and electrical components. It is unlikely that a pre-owned unit will have been well maintained. The chances of mechanical failure and ongoing repair costs are high, as are the risks associated with purchases of pre-owned equipment.
3. The City could generate and issue a request for sealed bids on a replacement vehicle that meets or exceeds the specifications. This option is not recommended due to cost considerations. Including a trade-in of our existing vehicle – the cost would be approximately \$250,000.
4. The current opportunity to have our existing truck retrofitted to repair worn equipment will allow us to obtain a better functioning vehicle at substantially less cost (\$35,227) than new. Environmental Products of Florida has conducted repairs for the City in the past, and has done very acceptable work.

Financial Impact:

The City budgeted \$37,000 for these repairs in the approved FY 2013 sewer budget in line item 401-3504-535-46. The cost for these repairs is \$35,227, which is significantly cheaper than the approximate \$250,000 cost of a new vehicle (including trade-in)

Recommendation:

Staff recommends option 4, completion of the repairs to the 2003 sewer vactor truck by Environmental Products of Florida in the amount of \$35,227