

## MEMORANDUM

**OMI**

**TO:** John Paul Castro, Utilities Director

**COPIES:** Ralph Estevez, CH2M Hill OMI

**FROM:** John Bartelmo, CH2M Hill OMI

**DATE:** March 6, 2015

**SUBJECT:** Authorizing purchase of a replacement Vactor series 2100 combination sewer cleaner vehicle for \$366,060 (\$326,060 with a \$40,000 trade in for the old unit) from Environmental Products of Florida to replace the 2003 unit that has been in use for 11 years. Budget price using the Florida Sheriffs Association contract #14-12-0904, FSA contract specification #47 effective October 1, 2014 through September 30, 2015.

### **Background:**

The Utilities Department request for a replacement Vactor series 2100 combination sewer cleaner vehicle was approved by the City Commission for Fiscal Year 14-15. The utility crew operates two vacuum trucks daily for maintenance of the wastewater collection system and response to customer needs. The unit for which replacement is requested has been in operation for 11 years and no longer operates at a level required for proper maintenance of the collection system. The useful lifespan of a wastewater vactor truck is approximately ten years. The City has historically purchased new vactor trucks on the ten year replacement cycle maintaining reliability of this critical equipment and minimizing repair cost.

### **Purpose and Justification:**

The Vactor combination sewer cleaners are the most important and specialized pieces of equipment used by the utilities department and are essential for proper maintenance and response activities in the City's wastewater and stormwater systems. They are used for routine cleaning of sewer pipe, manholes, stormwater catch basins, pump stations and stormwater wells. They are also used for soft digging in sensitive areas where underground utilities are located and responding to emergency situations such as wastewater spills.

### **Options:**

1. Approve the purchase of a replacement Vactor series 2100 combination sewer cleaner vehicle \$366,060 (\$326,060 with a \$40,000 trade in for the old unit) from Environmental Products of Florida to replace the 2003 vactor which has reached its useful lifespan.
- 2 The City could generate and issue a request for sealed bids on a vehicle that meets or exceeds the specifications. The disadvantages of this include the possibility of purchasing a unit of similar capabilities but lower quality manufacture, and create a separate inventory of spare parts. In addition, the price of \$366,060.00 would likely be exceeded using this method due to the delay it would cause.
3. Disapprove the purchase of a replacement Vactor series 2100 combination sewer cleaner vehicle.

# MEMORANDUM

Page 2

March 9, 2015

## **Financial Impact:**

This is an approved item on the FY 2014-2015 capital purchase list. The cost is \$366,060 (\$326,060 with a \$40,000 trade in for the old unit).

## **Recommendation:**

Staff recommends the purchase of a Vactor Model 2100 from Environmental Products of Florida, Corporation. As the City currently owns three vehicles of this brand that have proven a performance history in Key West conditions. Purchasing this brand would enable the operator to maintain a single line of critical spare parts.