



City Council Agenda Item

City Council Meeting Date: November 15, 2022

TO: Dean Albro, City Manager

FROM: Jeffrey S Collins, Information Technology Manager
j_collins@ci.lompoc.ca.us

SUBJECT: Adoption of Resolution No. 6551(22) Approving Supplemental Appropriations for Public Safety Mobile Data Computers and Routers for Vehicles

Recommendation:

Staff recommends the City Council adopt Resolution No. 6551(22) approving increased Fiscal Year (FY) 2022-23 budget appropriations in the amount of \$119,804.99 for the purpose of replacing the DELL Public Safety MDC and vehicle communication routers (attached).

Background:

The DELL Mobile Data Computers (MDC) used in the Public Safety Vehicles are out of warranty and have reached end of life (EOL). The communication routers used for communication (cellular and Wi-Fi) in the Public Safety Vehicles are also out of warranty and are in need of replacement.

Discussion:

The DELL MDCs used in the Public Safety Vehicles were purchased in August 2016 with a 5 year warranty. That warranty has since lapsed and cannot be extended as the computers in question have recently been deemed EOL. Of the 17 MDCs previously purchased, 5 have failed completely, leaving three vehicles without computers. The MDCs are used for accessing the Cyrun computer aided design (CAD) mobile software and for dispatching public safety officers to 911 calls. After replacement purchase of 17 new MDCs, the MDCs will be added to the ongoing PC replacement project executed by the Information Technology department. They will be replaced every 4 years. Total cost of purchasing 17 MDCs is \$47,840.47.

Utility Rocket routers are currently installed in the Public Safety vehicles to provide Wi-Fi and cellular connectivity. The Rocket routers are also used by the MDCs for connectivity to CAD and the WatchGuard video system. The Watchguard video system is the hardware (dash cams) and software for capturing and storing video from the public safety

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vehicles. The warranty on the routers has ended and support has switched to an annual extended service contract, with an additional charge. Additionally, while Utility has not yet specified an EOL for the Rocket routers or the extended service, indications are that this determination will be made soon.

Staff recommends the MDCs and routers be replaced at the same time. The technically compatible and recommended replacements for the Rocket routers are CradlePoint routers sold by Emergency Vehicle Specialists, Inc. The CradlePoint routers will work with existing services and are required for future upgrades including in-car video/body camera replacements. The CradlePoint devices also do not carry an annual service or software charge. Seventeen CradlePoint routers would be purchased for a total cost of \$71,964.52.

Fiscal Impact:

Replacement of the MDCs and communication routers was not included in the Biennial Budget Fiscal Years 2021-23 as the intention was to extend the warranties. Staff considers warranty periods and EOL cycles in determining when hardware and software needs to be budgeted to be replaced. Purchasing this hardware now will remove it from the upcoming budget cycle of 2023-25 when it would otherwise have been addressed.

Conclusion:

Adoption of Resolution No. 6551(22) will provide appropriate funding for purchase of the mission critical MDCs and communication routers.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey S Collins, Information Technology Manager

APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL TO THE CITY MANAGER:

Christie Donnelly, Management Services Director

APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL TO THE CITY COUNCIL:

Dean Albro, City Manager

Attachment: Resolution No. 6551(22)