

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: FLEET REPLACEMENT PROGRAM – POLICE HYBRID UTILITY VEHICLES

BACKGROUND:

The Police Department utilizes utility vehicles for patrol functions. These vehicles are required to operate in extreme conditions, including all weather types, high speeds, and under high electric operating loads that result in significant idle times. These vehicles typically accumulate over 125,000 miles of driving in less than a two-year period.

In 2019, Fleet Services and the Police Department ordered six Ford Police Interceptor Hybrid Utility vehicles for patrol use. This was the first time that pursuit-rated hybrids were available. Therefore, it was proposed to test the capabilities of these six vehicles before proceeding with further purchases.

Currently, there are two hybrids in service and there are no issues with the use of the vehicles. **The switch to hybrids has provided several advantages. The hybrids attain approximately double the fuel economy of the non-hybrid vehicles (18 mpg vs 9 mpg). The hybrids also require only two oil changes per year, compared with 13 for non-hybrid police patrol vehicles. It is expected that these reduced preventative maintenance requirements will also result in fewer long-term maintenance issues. In addition, the carbon output with these hybrid vehicles also reduced from 55.5 metric tons of carbon per year to 23.4 metric tons per vehicle.** The next step with the hybrids will be to see if there is the possibility of extending the service life of the units beyond the traditional timeframe of 125,000 miles.

The reductions in fuel and maintenance observed with the initial testing indicates that the additional purchase cost of the hybrids will be recouped within the first year of use; any use of the vehicles beyond that period of time therefore results in a lifecycle cost savings to the Police Department.

Funding for the purchase of three additional hybrid patrol vehicles is available from Fleet Replacement Funds in the amount of \$423,941. Included in this amount is funding for the upfitting of the patrol vehicles with lights and equipment. This upfitting is estimated to cost approximately \$10,000 per vehicle.

An invitation to bid was sent out to dealers for three new patrol vehicles. On June 10, 2021, a bid was received from one dealer as follows:

Bidder	Price per Unit	Total
Ames Ford Lincoln	\$36,340.92	\$109,022.76

Although only one bid was received through this solicitation, it is comparable to competitive bids received in previous purchases for Police interceptor utility vehicles with similar features. Therefore, City staff believes this bid is acceptable.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve and award this contract to Ames Ford Lincoln of Ames, Iowa, for three Ford Interceptor Hybrid Utilities for \$109,022.76.
2. Reject award of bid.

CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

These purchases are consistent with the use of patrol vehicles for the Police Department and the hybrids have shown exceptional savings in lifecycle cost and in a reduction of the City's carbon footprint.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1 as described above.