

ITEM #: 36
DATE: 05-14-24
DEPT: Fleet

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: PURCHASE OF THREE FORD POLICE INTERCEPTORS FOR POLICE PATROL

BACKGROUND:

Over the past several years, the City has increased the proportion of hybrid vehicles in the Police Patrol vehicle fleet. The hybrid Ford Police Interceptors have a marginally increased purchase price compared to standard gasoline-only version of the vehicle but consume substantially less fuel and require less frequent oil changes and brake services. The hybrids, therefore, have a lower life-cycle cost to operate and better align with the City's climate goals in reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Unfortunately, in the past 2-3 years, supply chain constraints have resulted in a severe shortage of the number of new vehicles being produced, especially hybrid Police Interceptor models. Because the Police Department's patrol vehicles are operated near continuously, and often in extreme conditions, these vehicles can become increasingly unreliable as they approach scheduled replacement. Additionally, these vehicles are taken out of service due to collisions more frequently than other City vehicles.

Due to the shortage of hybrid units in January 2024, Fleet Services and the Police Department are recommended waiving purchasing policies and buying non-hybrid units to ensure a sufficient number of vehicles could be on hand for Police Department needs. At that time, it was believed that hybrid units would soon become available again with the new model that was being released. Since then, Fleet has been notified that Ford's new model year of hybrid police vehicles will be built and delivered to customers that placed previous orders that have yet to be filled. Only then will there be a slow ramp-up of new orders being taken for hybrid units. Based on the current market for all vehicles, no order is guaranteed until the vehicle is delivered.

Due to the current need for replacement vehicles, staff has decided to place an order for non-hybrid patrol units, as these are the most likely to be fulfilled within four-to-six weeks of being ordered. On Wednesday, April 17, 2024 bids for three non-hybrid units were received as follows:

Bidder	Cost per Unit	Total Cost
Stiver's Ford Lincoln of Waukee, IA	\$44,194	\$132,582
Legacy Brothers, Inc. of Douglas, GA	\$60,618	\$181,854

Funding is available in the patrol vehicle escrow in the amount of \$542,000. This funding is also used for the upfitting of the vehicles with lights, radio and accessories. **Staff is working with Ford to place an immediate order for hybrid units, but staff expects they will be delivered much later or be moved to a future model year. Staff will continue to work towards an all-hybrid fleet for patrol as the units become available in the next couple of years.**

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Award a contract to Stiver's Ford Lincoln of Waukee, Iowa for three Ford Police Interceptors in the amount of \$132,582.
2. Award the contract to the other bidder.
3. Reject the bids and do not purchase replacement Police vehicles.

CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Police staff and the Fleet Director agree that approving the bid will allow patrol units to be delivered in the most immediate manner. Staff will continue to pursue hybrids as they become available. Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1 as described above.