

TO: Mayor Robinson and City Council

FROM: Jeffrey L. McCormick, Chief of Police

SUBJECT: Squad Car Replacement

DATE: January 14, 2016

BACKGROUND

One of the things I was tasked with when hired was the creation of a vehicle replacement schedule that addressed the issues of high mileage vehicles and extensive repairs to keep the fleet operational. Previously the squad cars had been replaced in mass every few years, creating a large bubble in the budgeting process. During the months between when I started and when the new vehicles arrived, the department spent the same amount of money as a new squad would cost, to keep the fleet operational. The plan I created has allowed us to avoid the costly repairs that added up in the past. The plan created a replacement rotation of the fleet that has worked very well with our capital plan. Currently we have slightly higher mileage than I had expected, but that was due to the several month delays in purchasing vehicles in 2012 and 2013. I annually modify our capital plan to be as accurate as I can in planning for replacements.

Marked Squad 451, a 2011 Crown Vic, is due for replacement this year. This is a planned replacement and has been budgeted for within the capital plan. The replacement vehicle will be a Ford Interceptor Utility which is used for the other marked squads in the fleet. This has proven to be a very good patrol vehicle and the advantages identified in 2011 have all proven themselves to be very significant improvements and has made the utility with its All-Wheel Drive (which has been great during the winters) very popular among our officers, and from talking with other Chiefs, the vehicle of choice for many police departments. Advantages identified included:

- Higher seating position meaning lateral entry of officers and a higher observation level while driving and parked.
- Large side windows for checking the blind-spot.
- Greater distance from floor to dash top, keeping the open computer screen below the windshield sightline (in the Crown Vic's it covered about $\frac{3}{4}$ of the windshield height while open).
- Rear cargo interior storage area (keeps AED, Oxygen and all equipment at usable temperature during winter).
- Higher location of light bar provides increased visibility of emergency lights.

The squad to be ordered will be the Police Interceptor Utility, the same as the previous squads, however the 2016 model is a new body style and some features are optioned differently than before, but the cost is less than \$2500 more the last squad purchased in 2013. The biggest cost addition for this vehicle is I have selected to order the factory white wrap of the doors and roof, but this will save money on the graphic costs, because the factory install is a couple hundred cheaper than the aftermarket install we did previously.

The 2016 Ford Interceptor Utility as specified has an order price of \$28,878.95 on the State Bid Contract.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Authorize the purchase of a 2016 squad from the State Contract Vendor and authorize the Chief of Police to sign any contracts that may be required for that order.

REQUESTED COUNCIL ACTION

Motion and approval to purchase of a 2013 squad from the State Contract Vendor and authorize the Chief of Police to sign any contracts that may be required for that order.