



CITY OF LODI COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

AGENDA TITLE: Approve Specifications and Authorize Advertisement for Bids for Street Sign-Making Equipment

MEETING DATE: October 7, 2009

PREPARED BY: Public Works Director

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve specifications and authorize advertisement for bids for street sign-making equipment.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: The Streets and Drainage Division and the Transit Division have ongoing needs to make new signs and replace old signs for traffic control, bus stops, and other special needs, such as the Downtown directional signs. The Transit Division has secured Federal Transit Administration grant funds to purchase sign-making equipment and related materials. The grant requires a 20-percent local match that would come from Measure K funds.

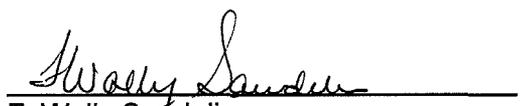
The Streets and Drainage Division purchased a plotter/cutter in 2005 which proved to be a highly cost-effective and reliable sign-making facility. However, it has limitations. For example, the plotter and cutters are labor intensive when making multicolor signs. Special-use signs, such as Downtown directional signs, have multiple layers of material and require substantial effort to assemble. The new sign machine will create all signs in a simple one-step process, saving time and money. A typical cost savings, based upon past experience, is the Downtown directional signs which are \$160 each. The recommended new sign-making equipment will make the same sign for \$71, a savings of over 40 percent. Labor would be reduced from over an hour to about 10 minutes. The existing sign machine will be retained for use on the standard traffic signs. Acquisition of this product will allow the Streets and Drainage Division to have a fully-equipped state-of-the-art sign shop.

The procurement process will involve advertising for bids for street sign-making equipment. Related materials will be purchased on an informal bid basis, following acquisition of the equipment.

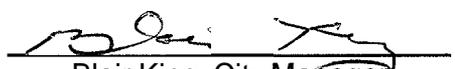
FISCAL IMPACT: There will be a reduction in the cost and labor associated with sign making by using an estimated \$6,000 of local street maintenance funds.

FUNDING AVAILABLE: The estimated cost of \$30,000 will be funded by FTA Grant CA-90-Y389 (80%) and Measure K Maintenance (20%).


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APPROVED: 
Blair King, City Manager