City of Garden Grove

INTER-DEPARTMENT MEMORANDUM

To:

Matthew J. Fertal

From:

Joseph M. Polisar

Dept:

City Manager

Dept:

Police Department

Subject:

RECOMMENDATION TO PURCHASE

Date:

August 25, 2009

JAIL VIDEO SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM

OBJECTIVE

To request City Council authorization to purchase a new Jail video surveillance system.

BACKGROUND

In May 2004, the Police Department purchased a digital video surveillance system for the jail from Richardson Electronics in accordance with RFP No. 01-1051. The system allowed the Police Department to record video of all jail cells, entries, interview rooms, and several hallways. These videos are stored on a computer hard drive for a period of two years.

If needed for evidentiary purposes, video can be copied onto CD or DVD, and taken to court. However, because a vendor no longer supports the product purchased from Richardson Electronics, if the system fails, it cannot be repaired. Jail video represents liability protection for the City and must be available at all times.

ANALYSIS

The system purchased from Richardson Electronics was designed with redundancy. The system contained the technological equivalent of a 'spare tire'. If any of the components failed, the spare would be used to continue operations until the failed components were replaced. With no support available, however, it is not possible to replace failed components. During the 4th quarter of 2008, the system did experience a failure and the spare was put into production use. If the spare unit fails, the Police Department will be unable to record video in the jail, leaving the City open to litigation should an injury or incident occur. In order to mitigate this risk, a replacement system was included in the 2009-2010 budget and needs to be purchased as soon as possible.

Staff interviewed several local Police Departments to find a potential surveillance system. Only La Habra, Costa Mesa, and Orange County Sheriff's had viable, well-

supported solutions in place. Staff visited with all three agencies, the following displays our findings:

- <u>La Habra</u> The DVR and storage technology was comparable to what would be needed in Garden Grove. However, a single technician located in Camarillo supported the entire system.
- <u>Costa Mesa</u> Uses a system purchased through Siemens. Costa Mesa is happy with both the system and support received. However, the system is cost-prohibitive for Garden Grove to purchase.
- Orange County Sheriff's Department Uses a system purchased from Tops Digital Solutions (TDS). OCSD had thoroughly tested several systems before choosing this one. TDS provided a solid, easy-to-use system with fast and efficient customer service. The system has all the features Garden Grove requires and OCSD staff would be available for installation and training support.

FISCAL IMPACT

The fiscal impact for this project is \$50,000. This amount was budgeted in the 2009/10 budget as part of the Police Department's Office Automation request.

COMMUNITY VISION IMPLEMENTATION

The purchase of a TDS-based surveillance system meets the goals of the community's vision by improving the safety of the community through the more efficient and reliable delivery of police services to the community.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the City Council:

 Authorize the Finance Director to issue a purchase order not to exceed the amount of \$50,000 to Tops Digital Solutions for the purchase of a Digital Surveillance System.

JOSEPH M. POLISAR

Chief of Police

By: Anand Rao

Information Systems Manager

Recommended for Approval

Matthew Fertal City Manager