County of Los Angeles
Sheriff's Department Headquarters
4700 Ramona Boulevard
Monterey Park, California 91754-2169

LEROY D. BACA, SHERIFF

July 3, 2007

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

AUTHORIZE THE PURCHASING AGENT TO ISSUE A PURCHASE ORDER FOR REPLACEMENT OF SECURITY FENCING AT PITCHESS DETENTION CENTER, EAST FACILITY (ALL DISTRICTS) (3 VOTES)

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

Authorize the purchasing agent to issue a purchase order to Western Fence and Supply Company in the amount of $122,027 to furnish and install a replacement security fence.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The purpose of the recommended action is to enable the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (Department) to replace the deteriorated fence at Pitchess Detention Center (PDC) East Facility. This fence will provide inmates housed at the facility with a safe outdoor exercise area in order to comply with California Code of Regulations (CCR) Title 15; eliminate the availability of loose fence material which can be used by inmates to fashion weapons; and protect the surrounding communities by avoiding the potential for a security breach and/or escape.

The existing fence was part of the original construction at PDC, East Facility. It has deteriorated and become a serious threat to inmate welfare and community safety. Pieces of fence material have been removed by inmates and fashioned into weapons that may potentially be used against other inmates or Department members. Without a replacement fence, the County is at risk of a potential security breach and possible escape by inmates.

The new fence will be 14 feet high, constructed of chain-link, and the upper 4 feet will be reinforced with a "no climb" fabric. The foot of the fence will be buried in a concrete curb.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The purchase and installation of the new fence support the County and the Department's Strategic Goals, specifically Goal 1, Service Excellence, providing for the safety and well-being of the inmates and community residents; and Goal 4, Fiscal Responsibility, addressing the maintenance of the facility effectively and efficiently.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The cost to replace and install the fence is $111,027. A contingency amount of $11,000 will be included in the purchase order to cover any unforseen circumstances. This purchase is funded by the Inmate Welfare Fund.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The acquisition of the material for this project falls under the statutory authority of the County's purchasing agent. However, because the service component associated with installation labor costs would exceed the authority of the purchasing agent, Board approval is required for the purchasing agent to proceed with this purchase order.

CONTRACTING PROCESS

The Department submitted a requisition to the Internal Services Department to conduct a solicitation for bids to furnish and install the fence. Of the three bids received, Western Fence and Supply Company was determined to be the lowest, responsible, and responsive bid at $111,027.

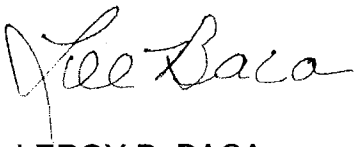
IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES

The approval of the purchase order will have no negative impact on the Department's current operations and services. Failure to approve this request may subject the Department to litigation should a weapon fashioned from the fence be used to cause an inmate injury, death, or escape.

CONCLUSION

Upon approval by your Board, please return two (2) adopted copies of this action to the Department's Contracts Unit and the Internal Services Department, Purchasing Division Manager, Mr. Joe Sandoval.

Sincerely,



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