

County of Los Angeles INTERNAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

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MICHAEL OWH Director

April 15, 2025

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BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

The Honorable Board of Supervisors County of Los Angeles 383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration 500 West Temple Street Los Angeles, California 90012

22 April 15, 2025

Edward your

EDWARD YEN EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Dear Supervisors:

INTERNAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT TELECOMMUNICATION EMERGENCY RESPONSE PREPAREDNESS (TERP) VEHICLES (ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS - 3 VOTES)

SUBJECT

The Internal Services Department (ISD) is seeking Board of Supervisors (Board) approval to solicit and proceed with the acquisition of four Telecommunication Emergency Response Preparedness (TERP) vehicles.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

1. Authorize the Director of ISD, as the County of Los Angeles (County) Purchasing Agent, to solicit and proceed with the acquisition of four TERP vehicles with an estimated cost of \$425,000 each, for an aggregated not-to-exceed amount of \$1,700,000.

2. Find that the proposed action is not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for the reasons stated in this Board Letter.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The four existing TERP vehicles, which have been in service for over 30 years, have recently encountered operational challenges. Two of the four existing TERP vehicles are no longer operational. The antenna mast on the two operating units are no longer functioning; to mount an antenna on the vehicle, a non-penetrating antenna mount is required. The maximum height clearance that could be obtained on a non-penetrating mount is 7'; if additional height clearance is

necessary the antenna would be mounted on a bucket truck and lifted above the desired height to clear the line-of-sight obstruction. These vehicles are deployed in pairs, with one pair in North Los Angeles County and the other in South Los Angeles County. The recommended course of action is to procure four replacement TERP vehicles. This acquisition will enhance the Department's capability to provide telecommunications emergency response for first responders' mission-critical radio communications systems during natural disasters and wildfires, as well as emergency restoration for the County's digital data network and emergency deployment activities. Furthermore, it will enable ISD to swiftly deploy and implement disaster recovery efforts in impacted areas. The new TERP vehicles will support both first and second responders by bridging gaps in the overall disaster recovery process. In light of recent fires, such as those at Eaton Canyon and Pacific Palisades, the TERP vehicles will significantly improve the County's ability to manage radio communications during these incidents.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The recommendations are consistent with the County's Strategic Plan, North Star 2, Public Safety. The TERP vehicles will greatly enhance the Department's ability to provide telecommunications emergency response for public safety radio communication systems during natural disaster.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

ISD has adequate funding in the FY2024-25 Final Adopted Budget to acquire the four TERP vehicles at a total, not-to-exceed amount, of \$1,700,000.

No additional net County cost is required for these acquisitions.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

This request complies with the County Equipment Policy that your Board approved on October 16, 2001. This policy requires that departments obtain Board approval to purchase or finance equipment with a unit cost of \$250,000 or greater.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

The proposed action is not subject to CEQA, because it is an activity that is excluded from the definition of a "Project" by Section 21065 of the Public Resources Code and Section 15378(b) of the State CEQA Guidelines. The proposed action to purchase four TERP vehicles is an organizational or administrative activity of the government that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes to the environment.

CONTRACTING PROCESS

The acquisition of this equipment is under the statutory authority of the County Purchasing Agent and will be competitively solicited in accordance with the County's standard purchasing policies and procedures. The Honorable Board of Supervisors 4/15/2025 Page 3

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

The existing TERP vehicles, with a service life exceeding 30 years, have experienced operational challenges in recent years. Two of the four existing TERP vehicles are no longer operational. The antenna mast on the two operating units is no longer functioning; to mount an antenna on the vehicle, a non-penetrating antenna mount is required. The maximum height clearance that could be obtained on a non-penetrating mount is 7'; if additional height clearance is necessary the antenna would be mounted on a bucket truck and lifted above the desired height to clear the line-of-sight obstruction. The new TERP vehicles will greatly enhance the Department's ability to provide telecommunications emergency responses for first responders' mission-critical radio communication systems during natural disasters/wildfires, emergency restoration for the County's digital data network, and emergency deployment. It will allow ISD to rapidly deploy and implement disaster recovery efforts in affected areas. The TERP vehicles could be utilized to support first and second responders to bridge any gaps in the overall disaster recovery process.

CONCLUSION

Upon approval by the Board, it is requested that the Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors, return one stamped copy of the approved Board Letter to ISD.

Respectfully submitted,

MICHAEL OWH Director

MO:QH:MA:DT:JY:hc

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors Chief Executive Office County Counsel