2021 Capital Budget Purchase Request to Purchase New Fire Engine

Issue

Engine 10 is a 1998 Pierce Quantum. Per NFPA standards, an Engine can no longer be a front line Engine once it is 25 years old. We do have the option of moving Engine 12 (2005 Custom Spartan) to our front line Engine, and continue to use Engine 10 as our "backup" Engine (which we have already done due to numerous mechanical issues with Engine 10). The costs to keep Engine 10 on the road have increased dramatically over the past 3-4 years, it is to the point where Engine 10 alone is almost using the entire truck maintenance budget for a single year. Engine 10 is beginning to significantly show it's age, ranging from body defects, to several mechanical issues, to pump issues. We formed a "truck committee" in January 2020, this committee is tasked with researching all options, while maintaining a vision for the future of LAFD. The committee researched the possibility of putting a "glide kit" on Engine 10, and then purchasing a "mini pumper", however, this option was simply not cost effective. After meeting with vendors, and various outside sources, the committee has come to the conclusion that the purchase of a new Engine is our best, and most cost effective option.

Proposal

Purchase new fire engine to replace Engine 10

Approval is being sought for the purchase of a new Engine to replace Engine 10. With the advanced age of Engine 10, and the slew of maintenance issues that have snowballed over the past 3-4 years, we need to replace Engine 10. Over the past 3-4 years, the cost to keep Engine 10 in working condition would be roughly one half (or more) of a yearly payment towards a new truck. The breakdown in maintenance costs can be found on the supplemental sheet submitted with this proposal.

Rationale

Like everything else that ages, Engine 10 will continue to cost more money each year just to keep it in a reliable working condition. LAFD needs to have a reliable "back up" Engine in the event Engine 12 were to have mechanical issues. All apparatus in LAFD's fleet are over 20 years of age, with the exception of Engine 12 (16yrs). In the near future, we will need to start replacing additional apparatus, in an effort to space out purchases, and maintain a cost effective truck maintenance budget, Engine 10 needs to be replaced.

Cost

Purchase of a new Engine is currently $600,000 - $650,000 (2020 price).

Summary

This is a necessary step to ensure we have reliable apparatus, and have a cost effective maintenance plan each year. As previously stated, with the exception of Engine 12, all apparatus in LAFD's fleet is well over 20 years old, near future requests to replace additional apparatus is certain.

2018 – Present Breakdown of Engine 10's Maintenance Costs

2018 - $11,135.00
2019 - $23,863.94
2020 (to date) - $17,048.00 – Still pending yearly pump testing, yearly maintenance, DOT inspection.

Respectfully,
Bobby Annen – Fire Chief
Lodi Area Fire Department