

**SANTA BARBARA COUNTY
BOARD AGENDA LETTER**



Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Agenda Number:
Prepared on: 8/14/06
Department Name: FIRE
Department No.: 031
Agenda Date: 09/12/06
Placement: Administrative
Estimate Time: 5
Continued Item: NO
If Yes, date from:

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: John M. Scherrei
Fire Chief

STAFF Bruce Carter, Manager, Fire/OES, 681-5559
CONTACT: Don Patterson, Sheriff's Department, 681-4385

SUBJECT: Request for Waiver of Competition in Purchase of a Specialized Bomb Squad Vehicle for Sheriff's Department.

Recommendation:

That the Board of Supervisors authorize the Purchasing Manager to procure a Bomb Squad Vehicle from The Braun Northwest Company, in an amount not to exceed \$275,000 under the terms and conditions of the Fiscal Year 2005 State Homeland Security Grant Program without being required to conduct a formal bid process.

Alignment with Board Strategic Plan:

The recommendation is primarily aligned with Goal No. 2. A Safe and Healthy Community in Which to Live, Work, and Visit.

Executive Summary and Discussion:

Pursuant to County Code Section 2-39, we are requesting your Board to waive the requirement for a competitive bid for the purchase of a specialized Bomb Squad Vehicle to be used by the Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Bomb Squad. The Braun Northwest Company vehicle will provide enhanced capabilities to the Sheriff's Department by completing the establishment of a north county bomb squad and provide the ability to respond more quickly to emergencies throughout the county.

The Braun Northwest Company is the only modular body manufacturer of this type of vehicle on the West Coast. Braun Northwest is the only manufacturer that has exceeded Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards (FMVSS) and testing by the Ambulance Medical Division (AMD) of the National Truck Equipment Association (NTEA) and meets the specifications of the Sheriff's bomb squad requirements. Braun Northwest, not a local vendor, is also the only vendor that offers a remount program, allowing the module to be remounted onto a new chassis when necessary.

Mandates and Service Levels:

There currently exists only one vehicle, located in Santa Barbara, for response to the entire county. The purchase of the Braun Northwest Bomb Squad Vehicle will enhance the Sheriff's Bomb Squad capabilities for Santa Barbara County and mutual aid agencies by establishing a bomb squad response capability in north county. A bomb robot, bomb suits and other bomb squad equipment has been purchased with other homeland security grant funds to complete the north county bomb squad.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Funding for the Braun Northwest Bomb Squad Vehicle would be from the Fiscal Year 2005 State Homeland Security Grant Program. A budget revision is in process to cover this \$275,000 purchase price.

Special Instructions:

Certified Copy of Minute Order to:

- Rose Pueschel, Santa Barbara County Fire
- John McMillin, Purchasing Agent
- Office of Emergency Services

Concurrence:

- County Executive Officer
- County Counsel
- Purchasing Manager
- Sheriff