



COUNTY OF NEVADA
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
950 MAIDU AVENUE, NEVADA CITY, CA 95959-8617
(530) 265-1411 FAX (530) 265-9849 www.mynevadacounty.com

Sean Powers
Community Development Agency Director

Trisha Tillotson
Director of Public Works

NEVADA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Board Agenda Memo

MEETING DATE: September 25, 2018
TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Joshua Pack, Principal Civil Engineer
SUBJECT: Resolution Authorizing the Purchase of a Snow Blower

RECOMMENDATION: Approve the attached resolution.

FUNDING: This purchase will impact the Roads Maintenance budget in Fiscal Years 2018/19 through 2025/26. Cash for the purchase will come from a loan from the General Fund in Fiscal Year 2018/19 and repayment of the loan will come from discretionary Road Fund revenues starting in Fiscal Year 19/20. A Resolution requesting approval of a General Fund Loan Agreement to the Department of Public Works has been prepared separately for your consideration. Cash in the General Fund will be initially reduced by the amount of the loan, and will be repaid over the 7 year period.

BACKGROUND:

The Department of Public Works-Road Maintenance Division (DPW) is responsible for snow removal services on county maintained roadways in the eastern Nevada County area. In past years, DPW has utilized contracted vendors as well as partnerships with local municipalities to assist with snow removal services. A January 2017 Department of Industrial Relations (DIR) determination requires that prevailing wages apply to all new snow removal contracts after January 1, 2017. Since that requirement, RFPs for snow removal contracts have seen no submitted bids or single bids at substantially higher costs. The recent 2017 winter storm season and significant increases in eastern Nevada County development may have also affected DPW's ability to solicit competitive bids.

DPW is also facing the possible Proposition 6 repeal of Senate Bill 1 (SB 1) funding, which would have a devastating impact on Roads activities, making it more imperative to implement a sustainable and affordable snow removal program.

Providing these services in-house will result in considerable cost savings each year and will ensure that all routes within the County's service area will be adequately covered. While Public Works has much of the equipment necessary to assume snow removal operations, the Department lacks a snow blower capable of plowing the heavy snows that accumulate in eastern Nevada County. DPW established key criteria necessary for the purchase of a snow blower. This includes the following:

- The snow blower must be available and delivered in time for plowing activities this winter
- The snow blower must meet minimum performance criteria for higher elevation roads

- With Proposition 6 threatening road maintenance revenues, financing options must be fully explored to minimize impacts to the roads maintenance budget

Through considerable research, staff identified a Rolba 3000 self-propelled snow blower as the preferred product. The Rolba had a considerable history of performing snow removal in other extreme winter environments. Its snow removal capacity (at approximately 5,300 tons per hour) is one of the highest performing snow blowers on the open market. The Rolba also outperformed other available models in a number of key performance measures, including throwing distance, working and travel speeds, engine performance, and cab design. The Rolba is available through Sourcewell (formerly the National Joint Powers Alliance), which allows the County to purchase prequalified equipment through a competitive national solicitation process that meets or exceeds county requirements. The total cost for a new snow blower is \$595,300 (\$544,000 for the snow blower, \$5,500 for training, \$5,000 freight and \$40,800 in taxes (taxes to be paid by the County)).

Without an adequate snow blower available for the 2019 winter season, county staff would be unable to meet snow removal demand, affecting road safety for many eastern Nevada County roads, residents, businesses, and visitors. R.P.M. Tech, Inc. ("Vendor") has one new Rolba 3000 model currently in stock, and can promise delivery before November 1, 2018. This ensures that the County will have the equipment on hand and receive the necessary training before the 2019 winter season begins. The purchase will be made through the Roads fund and (due to the aforementioned funding threat of potential Proposition 6 repeal of SB1) there will be a separate Resolution presented to the Board outlining the terms and conditions of a General Fund Loan Agreement with the Department of Public Works for this purchase. This will allow for sustainable loan repayments that would be incorporated into subsequent roads budgets. This approach reduces impacts on the roads budget by amortizing costs over a predetermined period.

Item Initiated by: Joshua Pack, Principal Civil Engineer
Approved by: Trisha Tillotson, Director of Public Works

Submittal Date: July 24, 2018
Revision Date: September 20, 2018