



# Memorandum

## MONTEREY REGIONAL WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

Reviewed by *[Signature]* Date 12/12/08  
General Manager

DATE: December 11, 2008  
TO: General Manager  
FROM: Equipment Maintenance Manager  
SUBJECT: Purchase of Two Used Pickup Trucks

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**RECOMMENDATION:** That the Board authorize the General Manager to approve the purchase of two (2) used trucks for use in the site operations at a cost not to exceed \$45,000. A total of \$60,000 for the replacement of three (3) site vehicles is included in the Capital Outlay portion of the fiscal year (FY) 2008/09 budget.

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### BACKGROUND

The District Site Manager is one of the first responders in case of a site emergency, has job responsibilities that require access to all areas of the site, attends off site meetings, oversees construction projects, conducts site tours for various types of visitors, and transports employees when needed. Staff recommends purchase of a replacement truck for the Site Manager. The 2001 Ford F-150 crew cab 4x4 truck he currently utilizes has 85,452 miles and will remain in service for use by the landfill operators to various job locations throughout the site, thus allowing the retirement of the 1996 Ford F-250 4x4 truck, with 203,000 miles, they currently use. This truck is no longer able to pass smog testing without some costly repairs and has reached the end of its useful life.

The second replacement truck is for use by the site crew. The District site crew is also one of the first responders in case of a site emergency; they have job responsibilities that require access to all areas of the site and many times require the transportation of tools and materials to these locations. Staff recommends replacement of the 1994 Ford F-250 truck with 161,000 miles used by the site crew that has also reached the end of its useful life.

The District must continue to update equipment from all departments of the operation to minimize the risk of making costly repairs that could exceed the value a piece of equipment may have remaining, based on a reasonable life expectancy. Staff would like to take advantage of the struggling light truck market and purchase two (2) of these three (3) site vehicles over the next several months.

### DISCUSSION

The FY 2008/09 budget mentioned that two (2) of the three (3) site vehicles were to be replaced with small utility type vehicles, possibly alternative fuel vehicles; however, staff has not identified a small utility vehicle with the versatility and safety of a truck that can withstand the brutal environment of the site. Staff recommends the purchase of a used recent year model full-sized crew cab 4WD truck for the Site Manager and a used recent year model full sized truck for use by the site crew. Consideration will also be given to hybrid trucks should they be available in full sized comparable models and priced to meet budget limits.

Staff will continue to seek a suitable small utility vehicle for the third purchase and consider such a purchase at a later date. With the purchase of two (2) replacement trucks, the vehicles being replaced will be declared surplus and sold with other surplus equipment in early 2009.

Buying used vehicles, in most cases requires the ability to purchase on short notice which is why staff is requesting that the General Manager be given authorization to approve such a transaction. Staff feels with the recent economic situation, purchasing used trucks will yield the best value for dollars spent as there is currently a surplus of light duty trucks on the market.

### CONCLUSION

It is therefore recommended that the Board of Directors authorize the General Manager to approve the purchase of two used trucks from a local dealership for use in site operations.

  
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Ron Mooneyham