



RIVERSIDE PUBLIC UTILITIES

Board Memorandum

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

DATE: SEPTEMBER 26, 2022

SUBJECT: INCREASE THE ANNUAL PURCHASE ORDER WITH CALIFORNIA-NEVADA JOINT APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING COMMITTEE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$35,000, FOR A REVISED TOTAL PURCHASE ORDER OF \$80,000

ISSUE:

Consider approving an increase in the annual purchase order with California-Nevada Joint Apprenticeship Training Committee in the amount of \$35,000, for a revised total purchase order of \$80,000.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Board of Public Utilities:

1. Approve an increase in the annual purchase order with California-Nevada Joint Apprenticeship Training Committee in the amount of \$35,000, for a revised total purchase order of \$80,000; and
2. Authorize the City Manager, or designee, to execute a new agreement with California-Nevada Joint Apprenticeship Training Committee.

BACKGROUND:

As part of the hiring process for Riverside Public Utilities Electric Apprentice Trainees, enrollment and continued satisfactory progress in a formal Utilities Electric Apprentice training program has been established as a requirement for continued employment. This is in alignment with the IBEW MOU Article 11 – Employment Development and the Employment Agreement each new hire signs.

In order to satisfy this requirement, the requirements established by the State of California's Department of Industrial Relations (DIR), and to continue offering consistent training previously offered to legacy employees, Riverside Public Utilities has utilized the training program offered by California-Nevada Joint Apprenticeship Training Committee (JATC).

The California-Nevada JATC is a non-profit association designed to systematically train unionized workers for the outside electrical construction industry. The California-Nevada JATC is governed by a Board of Trustees. The Board is made up of eight members; four to represent the Western Line Chapter of the National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA), and four members of the

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW). The main focus of the California-Nevada JATC is to keep the outside electrical industry within California and Nevada with an adequate number of highly-skilled journey level workers. They do this by offering a Power Lineman Apprenticeship program in Outside Electrical Construction. This program is in compliance with the standards established by DIR. In addition to receiving skill training on the job, apprentices are provided with trade-related classroom training that produces competency and pride that lead to true craftsmanship.

The program is extensive and offers training in the following areas:

1. Climbing
2. Distribution
3. Transmission hot sticking
4. Various safety topics
5. Rigging & Transformer skills

First year apprentices attend a 40-hour Orientation/Climbing Class and Work Methods Training Class. Second year apprentices attend a 40-hour Underground Training Class and a 40-hour Rubber Glove Training Class. Third year apprentices attend a 40-hour Hot Sticks Training Class and a 32-hour Crane Certification Training Class.

DISCUSSION:

On June 27, 2022, a purchase order in the amount of \$45,000 was approved by the Board of Public Utilities as part of the annual purchase order expenditures. Shortly thereafter, the City of Riverside received correspondence from the California-Nevada JATC, that due to the ongoing effects of the pandemic and inflation, the organization had decided to raise the cost of tuition for their training program.

California-Nevada JATC is the only organization in California capable of providing training to Riverside Public Utilities field employees with the necessary specialized training needed in order to properly conduct day-to-day operations out in the field.

Purchasing Resolution No. 23812, Section 403, provides that competitive procurement shall not be required for Information Technology software maintenance and license renewals; training; advertising; or professional recruitment services where the Manager is satisfied that the best price, terms and condition for the Procurement thereof have been negotiated. In this case, the training can only be obtained from California-Nevada JATC, and it complies with all the requirements under this section.

The Purchasing Manager concurs that the recommended actions are in compliance with Purchasing Resolution No. 23812.

The Human Resources Director concurs with the recommendations in this report.

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT:

This item contributes to **Strategic Priority 2 - Community Well Being** and **Goal 2.4 - Support programs and innovations that enhance community safety, encourage neighborhood**

engagement, and build public trust; and **Strategic Priority 5 - High Performing Government** and **Goal 5.5** - Foster a culture of safety, well-being, resilience, sustainability, diversity, and inclusion across the city organization.

This project aligns with each of the five Cross-Cutting Threads as follows:

1. **Community Trust** – By ensuring Electric Field employees receive training in alignment with the State of California’s established standards, the public can rest assured knowing that staff has the knowledge to provide the best service to the City’s Electric infrastructure.
2. **Equity** – By having continuity of training to all Electric Field employees, it ensures all crews that work throughout the city have the same knowledge and know how to maintain electric infrastructure citywide. This ensures that all work is handled with a uniform approach ensuring equal service throughout the community.
3. **Fiscal Responsibility** – Being that the California-Nevada JATC has a Riverside campus, we are able to save considerably by eliminating the cost of travel and housing for every employee that is trained.
4. **Innovation** – Training is essential to ensure the most up to date knowledge is transferred to employees for practical use in the field. California-Nevada JATC continues to adapt their programs to be in alignment with any changes made to the standards established by the State of California’s Department of Industrial Relations.
5. **Sustainability & Resiliency** – Employees with proper training ensures that Electric Field employees can continue to maintain our electric infrastructure and continue to provide a high level of service to the Riverside’s electric customers both residential and commercial.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The total fiscal impact is \$80,000. Sufficient funds are available in Public Utilities Training Account No. 6105000-427200.

Prepared by:	Daniel Honeyfield, Utilities Assistant General Manager/Energy Delivery
Approved by:	Todd M. Corbin, Utilities General Manager
Approved by:	Kris Martinez, Assistant City Manager
Approved as to form:	Phaedra A. Norton, City Attorney

Certifies availability of funds:	Edward Enriquez, Interim Assistant City Manager/Chief Financial Officer/City Treasurer
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Attachments:

1. Agreement with California/Nevada JATC
2. Presentation