



**THE PORT
OF LOS ANGELES**
Executive Director's
Report to the

Board of Harbor Commissioners

DATE: OCTOBER 9, 2024

FROM: PORT POLICE

**SUBJECT: RESOLUTION NO. _____ - AWARD OF CONTRACT NO. 40057
TO SAFE BOATS INTERNATIONAL, LLC FOR THE PURCHASE OF
TWO T-TOP CENTER CONSOLE BOATS**

SUMMARY:

Staff requests approval of Contract No. 40057 (Contract) with SAFE Boats International, LLC, of Bremerton, Washington for the purchase of two (2) T-Top center console boats to replace vessels, 273-04 and 273-07, currently in use for the Maritime Law Enforcement Training Center's basic and advanced training courses.

The Contract with SAFE Boats International, LLC is outlined in Formal Bid Request Number F-1216. The total Contract amount is \$947,776, inclusive of applicable taxes. The Contract includes the design, construction, and delivery of the 29'4" center console boats and installation of radio equipment for each vessel and two trailers. The City of Los Angeles Harbor Department (Harbor Department) will be financially responsible for the payment of expenses incurred under the proposed Contract.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Board of Harbor Commissioners (Board):

1. Find that the Director of Environmental Management has determined that the proposed action is administratively exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) under Article II Section 2(f) of the Los Angeles City CEQA Guidelines;
2. Award and approve Contract No. 40057 to SAFE Boats International, LLC for the purchase of two T-Top center console boats in the amount of \$947,776, including applicable taxes;
3. Authorize the Executive Director to execute and the Board Secretary to attest to Contract No. 40057 for and on behalf of the Board; and
4. Adopt Resolution No. _____.

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DISCUSSION:

Background/Context – In 2011, the Los Angeles Port Police (Port Police) established the Maritime Law Enforcement Training Center (MLETC). The MLETC is the nation’s first port-based maritime law enforcement training center and the only Peace Officer Standard of Training (POST) certified and federally recognized Maritime Law Enforcement Training Center on the west coast. Courses range from basic to advanced, and cover topics such as boat handling and vessel boarding, charting, navigation rules, arrest procedures, vessel identification, and investigative searches. Courses are available to all sworn Port Police, municipal, county, and state law enforcement personnel who require maritime skill sets to perform their duties. The MLETC staff operate equipment on the waters of the Port of Los Angeles and provide a layer of security and response for the Port Complex.

The Port Police are in the process of replacing 10 MLETC training boats. Eight (8) of these boats are the student boats, which are operated by the instructors and the students. The other two (2) boats are the opposing force boats, which are operated by the instructors. The purchase of the first two (2) replacement student boats was approved by the Board on July 6, 2023.

MLETC Vessel Estimated Replacement Schedule:

Quantity	Year	Size	Make	Est. Replacement
2	2011	28	Metal Shark	FY 24/25
2	2011	30	ZODIAC	FY 24/25
2	2011	28	Metal Shark	FY 25/26
2	2011	28	Metal Shark	FY 25/26
2	2023	29	SAFE Boat	FY 34/35

Replacement of MLETC training boats is at approximately 10 years of service depending on a variety of factors, including ongoing maintenance costs, hull and equipment condition, and continued mission suitability. Guidelines were established in consultation with the Construction & Maintenance Division, who provides all maintenance and repair of the vessels. These determinations are based on experience in maintaining a fleet that is used heavily in a harsh operating environment.

The two (2) SAFE Boat 29-foot center console vessels will replace two (2) 28-foot Metal Shark student training boats that have reached the end of service life and are due for replacement.

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The new boats provide a training platform designed for basic and advanced maritime law enforcement courses. The SAFE Boats are open-cabin T-Top design vessels with four (4) shock mitigation seating. This design is optimal for safe law enforcement instruction in various sea-state conditions.

The MLETC boats are also utilized by Port Police Maritime Tactical Team for port security training exercises and police operations.

Selection Process – On July 12, 2024, Port Police submitted requisition Z-25-005 (ERP #95781) to the Contracts and Purchasing Division for the purchase of two (2) T-Top center console vessels.

Formal Bid No. F-1216 was sent to SAFE Boats International LLC with a due date of August 14, 2024.

This is a sole source bid. Port Police is replacing the existing fleet of eight (8) student training boats at the MLETC. The first two replacement boats are currently under construction through a contract that was awarded to SAFE Boats International LLC. Port Police seeks to purchase six additional identical boats from this manufacturer over the next two to three years. These boats are operated by MLETC instructors and students. The instructors come from several law enforcement agencies in the region and the students come from law enforcement agencies throughout California. During their training, the students operate the boats and conduct challenging maritime maneuvers designed to teach them important skills that they will be able to use in demanding situations. In order for this training to be effective and conducted in a safe manner, it is critical that the instructors are completely familiar with the boats, including their handling characteristics and the layout of instruments and controls. Similarly, it is also critical that as the students progress through the training sessions, the boats they are training on will perform consistently and have the same layout of instruments and controls. Boats from different manufacturers that would comply with the same specifications can have significantly different handling characteristics, respond differently to control inputs, and have differences in the layout of instruments and controls. In addition, having the same manufacturer for all eight of the student training boats will make the maintenance and repair of these vessels more cost effective over their lifetime.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT:

The proposed action is the approval of a Contract with SAFE Boats International, LLC for the purchase of two T-Top central console boats, which is an administrative activity. Therefore, the Director of Environmental Management has determined that the proposed action is administratively exempt from the requirements of CEQA in accordance with Article II Section 2(f) of the Los Angeles City CEQA Guidelines.

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FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Approval of the proposed Contract authorizes the purchase of two (2) T-top center console vessels in the amount of \$947,776 including applicable taxes. Design, construction, delivery, installation, provisioning, extended warranty, technical documentation, and spare transmission and engine for each vessel are included in the cost of the vessels.

Funding in the amount of \$947,776 has been budgeted in the Fiscal Year 2024/25 Adopted Budget within Account 161200 (Equipment), Center 52010, Program 000.

ATTORNEY:

The Office of the City Attorney has reviewed and approved Contract No. 40057 as to form and legality.

TRANSMITTALS:

1. Contract No. 40057
2. Recap of Bid #F-1216

FIS Approval: 
CA Approval: 



GREG MCMANUS
Deputy Chief of Police



THOMAS E. GAZSI
Chief of Public Safety and
Emergency Management

APPROVED:

 for

EUGENE D. SEROKA
Executive Director

TEG:GM:GC