



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

Board of Harbor Commissioners

DATE: MARCH 11, 2026

FROM: PORT POLICE

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION NO. _____ - AWARD OF CONTRACT TO RJE OCEANBOTICS INC. FOR THE PURCHASE OF AN SRV-8 REMOTELY OPERATED VEHICLE (ROV) SYSTEM

SUMMARY:

Staff requests approval of a Contract with RJE Oceanbotics Inc. (Oceanbotics), Irvine, CA, for a one-time purchase of an SRV-8 Remotely Operated Vehicle (SRV-8 ROV) to replace an SRV-8 ROV purchased from Oceanbotics in 2019. The contract with Oceanbotics is outlined in Formal Bid Request Number F-1269 (Transmittal 1). The manufacturer of the SRV-8 ROV, Oceanbotics, is the sole proprietor and distributor of this equipment. The Oceanbotics SRV-8 ROV System is a vital component to many Port Police underwater missions. Remotely operated vehicles (ROV) usage improves the team's efficiency, strengthens interagency collaboration, and helps secure vital subsea assets within the Port of Los Angeles (Port).

The total Contract amount is \$245,722.55 and includes an SRV-8 ROV, applicable sales tax, a two-year warranty, and delivery. The City of Los Angeles Harbor Department (Harbor Department) will be financially responsible for 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 the Contract (Bid No. F-1269) with RJE Oceanbotics Inc. for the one-time purchase of an SRV-8 ROV System in the amount of \$245,722.55 including applicable taxes and delivery;
3. Authorize the Executive Director to execute and the Board Secretary to attest to the Contract for and on behalf of the Board; and
4. Adopt Resolution No. _____.

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DISCUSSION:

Background/Context – The Port Police Dive Unit has successfully deployed the 2019 Oceanbotics SRV-8 ROV in the Port and surrounding waterways to identify objects during various public safety dive operations such as vessel collisions, criminal investigations, potential submerged explosive devices, vessel hull searches, and critical infrastructure security checks. While Port Police divers possess the experience, knowledge and training to enhance existing security efforts of the Port and neighboring partners, the SRV-8 ROV is used as an alternative to a diver in situations where safe entry into the water is not possible due to biological or chemical contamination, depth and underwater dive limitations, hazardous conditions such as confined spaces, unstable underwater environments, or hazardous devices.

The SRV-8 ROV is a force multiplier providing immediate, safe, and detailed underwater imagery and information. The SRV-8 ROV enhances operational capacity through rapid deployment, high-resolution sonar imagery, live-stream video, and maneuverability to locate, identify, and recover evidence or hazards from the water. Usage of an SRV-8 ROV improves the team's efficiency, strengthens interagency collaboration, and helps secure vital subsea assets within the Port.

This purchase will replace the SRV-8 ROV purchased in 2019 from Oceanbotics. The new model SRV-8 ROV's improvements make it an asset with the capability to evolve with the team's growth. The improved technology and developments in underwater robotics are a more stable and powerful solution and include a diverse range of underwater applications, software evolution, navigational upgrades, and structural enhancements. Mission expectations and tasking require faster data transfer, multiple communication ports, and more efficient movement underwater.

The improved operational capabilities paired with the Port Police divers' experience, knowledge and training impact mission efficiency, increase maritime situational awareness, and enhance the safety of the Port's critical infrastructure, Port Police personnel, and the Port's community partners.

Selection Process – On October 28, 2025, Port Police submitted requisition REQ17513 to the Contracts and Purchasing Division (CPD) for the purchase of an SRV-8 ROV.

The manufacturer of the SRV-8 ROV, Oceanbotics is the sole proprietor and distributor of this equipment as demonstrated by the Oceanbotics Sole Source Letter dated May 7, 2025 (Transmittal 2). The Oceanbotics Sole Source Letter represented "[t]here are no equivalent items or products available for purchase that would serve the same purpose or function as the SRV-8, SRV-8X, or their compatible accessories, and there is only one price for these items due to exclusive distribution rights." A competitive process under Charter Section 371 was impracticable or impossible due to the fact that Oceanbotics is the only supplier of the

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SRV-8 ROV, and was therefore exempt from the competitive process under Section 371(e)(10). Upon receipt and evaluation of the sole source letter on a company letterhead, CPD proceeded with the bid opportunity as a sole source purchase.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT:

The proposed action is the approval of a contract with RJE Oceanbotics Inc. for a one-time purchase of an SRV-8 ROV System, 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.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Approval of the proposed one-time purchase order Contract authorizes the amount of \$245,722.55 (including tax and delivery) for the purchase of an SRV-8 ROV.

Fiscal Year 2025/26 funds in the amount of \$245,722.55 have been budgeted within Account 161210 (Capital Equipment Purchase), Division 52010 (Port Police). The two-year warranty included with the SRV-8 ROV covers all service/repairs. Prior to the two-year warranty expiration, the Harbor Department will evaluate and purchase an extended warranty.

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CITY ATTORNEY:

The Office of the City Attorney has reviewed and approved Bid Number F-1269 as to form and legality.

TRANSMITTALS:

1. Bid No. F-1269
2. Oceanbotics Sole Source Letter

FIS Approval: JS

CA Approval: SO



GREG MCMANUS
Deputy Chief of Police



THOMAS E. GAZSI
Chief of Public Safety and
Emergency Management

APPROVED:

Erica M. Calhoun for

EUGENE D. SEROKA
Executive Director

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