



**Brett Wollenzien**  
Fleet Services Superintendent  
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## MEMORANDUM

TO: Robert Barwick, Purchasing Division  
FROM: Brett Wollenzien, Fleet Superintendent  
DATE: November 23, 2020  
SUBJECT: Purchase of Volvo EWR150E Wheeled Excavator

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This is a memo to request the budgeted purchase of a Volvo EWR150E Wheeled Excavator with attachments (Rotating quick coupler, hydraulic thumb, 30" Ditching bucket, and Hydraulic hammer). This unit will be replacing our 23 year old Caterpillar Backhoe which is at the end of its service life.

The machine we are looking to procure has an excavator style boom. This allows the machine to work in close proximity of the trench and the dump truck which minimizes the amount of space occupied on the street which results in a safer work zone in congested areas. When our search began to replace our Backhoe, we looked at the work we do today and how we do it. We reached out to our Equipment Operators as well as other communities for input. We found that a wheeled excavator would be a more viable option. To start, the operator has an unrestricted view of the bucket, giving them a better view of where they are digging. This can allow them to see sensitive pipes and cables which they may hit using a Backhoe which in turn would require additional repair work. Wheeled Excavators are easier to maneuver and can work in tight spaces. Wheeled Excavators have a 360 degree working radius compared to the 180 degrees of a Backhoe. This allows added flexibility and options to dump material and load a truck. A Backhoe would require two lanes of traffic to be closed verses one lane with the Wheeled Excavator. This in turn could reduce the amount of staff needed at the job site. Along with truck loading from street cuts and concrete break-outs, this machine will also be used for ditch and basin clean out, storm drain and creek grate clean out, and brush and debris loading. All of these operations require the machine to be fully capable of reaching over obstacles such as guard rails, walls and other fixed objects. This will be a distinct advantage and function of the Wheeled Excavator.

Our original Major Equipment budget for 2020 to replace the Backhoe is \$184,500 and the Hydraulic Hammer under the 2021 budget is \$33,400.00 totaling \$217,900. With that said, the City is able to take advantage of the Sourcewell purchasing contract which allows us to receive the lowest possible price. I would recommend that it would be in the City's best interest to move forward with the purchase of the new Volvo EWR150E Wheeled Excavator with the attachments as quoted by Aring Equipment Company for a total price of \$204,491.

If you should have any further questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Brett Wollenzien  
Fleet Services Superintendent