

## **Chevasco, Maria**

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**From:** Earle, Jeremy  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 28, 2023 9:11 AM  
**Cc:** Ragoonan, Sharon; Sandoval, Noemy; Phinn, Faith; Lues, Andrea; Merino, Jennifer; Steven W. Zelkowitz (szelkowitz@taylorenghish.com)  
**Subject:** City/CRA Vehicles

Good morning Honorable Mayor/Chair, Vice Mayor/Vice Chair, and Commissioners/Directors,

I wanted to bring you all up to speed on the issue of vehicle purchases within both the City and the CRA.

As you are aware, supply chain issues are still the order of the day, as cities across the country are trying to replace vehicles that are outside of their useful life. We have been struggling with vehicle replacements utilizing our usual Florida Sheriffs contracts, state contracts, and Sourcewell which is a national co-op. All of these are mechanisms which were utilized in the past.

In March of this year, some of our procurement staff attended South East Florida NIGP Coop, which is a group comprised of over 20 tri-state county procurement agencies. There was a lengthy discussion regarding vehicle purchases, and lead times from various agencies.

For example:

- City of Tamarac – Placed an order for a fire apparatus and were given a lead time of 24 months for delivery.
- City of North Lauderdale – Placed an order for a heavy vehicle and were given a lead time of 27 months for delivery.
- City of Sunny Isles Beach – Were unsuccessful with placing orders from Florida Sheriffs Association contracts. They have utilized a bid waiver and have sourced vehicles locally.
- City of Plantation – Still waiting on vehicles to be delivered from orders placed in early 2022. They are expecting delivery around 24 months from date of order. Plantation mentioned they had contacted FSA and Sourcewell dealers and asked to be placed on the “default list” for those agencies who did not follow through with their purchase and the dealer now has the vehicle on their lot.

Due to examples such as these, we have had to go directly to dealers who may have inventory available on their lots and negotiate with them rather than wait for a year or more for needed vehicle. Please recall that we stopped funding vehicle replacements in the General Fund back in 2017/2018. We have only now started to fund replacements again due to the fact that so many of our vehicles are years beyond their useful life.

On the CRA side there is a need for us to purchase another vehicle from an existing local dealer inventory, rather than wait 12-24 months. Our CRA Tesla was in a bad accident back in the December, and the cost to repair it is \$30K. If it were almost any other vehicle it would have been written off by the insurance company, however, because as anticipated in the agenda cover memo back in 2019 when we purchased the vehicle, the Tesla has held its value (represents an excellent investment). The vehicle will be out of commission for another two months, while it is being repaired. We had budgeted for another vehicle this year for site visits, business visitations etc. A search was conducted of other EV's, and there appears to be some dealer inventory which tends to go very quickly. We are therefore going to attempt to purchase a different EV brand and then bring it before the CRA Board for ratification.

In all likelihood we will also need to continue to source vehicles locally on the City side as well. This will necessitate us securing/purchasing the vehicles and then bringing an item back to the commission due to this very unique situation in which we find ourselves. Per the direction from the City Commission, we are seeking to purchase EV's/Hybrids as a priority, however, as a matter of full transparency, we have had to purchase a truck out of necessity (absolute lack of inventory locally) which had a regular ICE.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Best,

**Jeremy Earle, Ph.D., AICP, FRA-RA | City Manager/CRA Executive Director**

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