



City of La Quinta

CITY / SA / HA / FA MEETING DATE: February 3, 2015

AGENDA CATEGORY:

ITEM TITLE: AUTHORIZE OVERNIGHT TRAVEL FOR TRAFFIC SIGNAL TECHNICIAN TO ATTEND TRAINING IN GLENDALE, ARIZONA ON MARCH 11 AND 12, 2015

BUSINESS SESSION:

CONSENT CALENDAR: 5

STUDY SESSION:

PUBLIC HEARING:

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Authorize overnight travel for the Traffic Signal Technician to attend Traffic Signal Technician Level I training and certification to be held March 11 and 12, 2015 in Glendale, Arizona.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

- The City's Traffic Signal Technician has an opportunity to learn to program, troubleshoot and monitor traffic signal systems to keep them operating safely and efficiently.
- Traffic Signal Level I training and certification, is being offered by the International Municipal Signal Association, in Glendale, Arizona, and provides training needed to both support and improve the performance of La Quinta's traffic signals.
- Staff recommends approval of this training in order for the Traffic Signal Technician to achieve Level 1 certification.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The estimated total cost for this training is \$1,061. Funds are available in the Fiscal Year 2014/2015 budget (Travel, Training and Meetings).

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS:

The City operates and maintains 54 traffic signals located throughout the City which, in addition to routine maintenance, require periodic upgrades, repairs, and

adjustments so they perform at an optimal level. In coordination with the City's Traffic Engineer, the Traffic Signal Technician performs this work.

Traffic signal systems are complex computer-based devices. Traffic Signal Level I training and certification, offered by the International Municipal Signal Association, will give the technician the extensive "hands on" training to improve signal phasing and coordination and to maintain maximum performance of La Quinta's traffic signals.

The certification this class provides is a requirement of the Traffic Signal Technician's probation. While this class will be held in Ontario, California in six months, staff recommends the completion of this requirement as soon as possible so that staff may maintain high performing signal operations. Further, there would not be a significant cost reduction associated with attending the Ontario session.

ALTERNATIVES:

As this training is imperative to traffic signal safety and time is of the essence, staff does not recommend an alternative.

Report prepared by: Ed Wimmer, P.E., Principal Engineer

Report approved for submission by: Timothy R. Jonasson, P.E.

Public Works Director/City Engineer