

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** The Honorable Mayor and City Council

**FROM:** Sam Webb, Fleet Superintendent

**DATE:** February 17, 2026

**SUBJECT:** **Recommendation to Purchase One (1) Replacement Vehicle for the Police Department**  
**- Five Votes Required**

### Request

Approve the resolution to waive competitive bidding for the purchase one (1) replacement vehicle for the Police Department and purchase directly from the vendor.

### Background

Unit 338, a 2018 Dodge Caravan Community Service vehicle, is requested for replacement. The 2026 budget contains funding for this vehicle, and the current unit has exceeded replacement standards with over 102,000 miles of use.

The replacement vehicle is requested to be a 2026 Dodge Ram pickup truck instead of a minivan. After replacing another Community Service Officer (CSO) vehicle in early 2025 with a pickup truck, calls for service data and end user feedback have shown that this vehicle type effectively supports CSO duties and maintains the level of service expected by the Police Department and community.

### Procurement Results

Staff typically utilize cooperative contracts to procure vehicles. These contracts undergo a thorough competitive bidding process to solicit, evaluate, and award contracts for goods and services. Periodically, staff seeks pricing from other vendors to confirm that cooperative contracts provide the best pricing available. In this instance, staff compared other Ram pickup trucks with similar options and equivalent Ford models on both local and national cooperative contracts. The best pricing was obtained from one of the City's existing vendors, Bob Ridings, Inc. The following chart shows the vehicles and pricing available for the replacement vehicle:

Vendor	Year/ Make/ Model	Included Options	Delivered Cost
<b>National Auto Fleet Group</b>	2026/ Ram/ 1500	None	\$44,661
<b>Currie Motors/ SPC Co-Op</b>	2026/ Ford/ F150	Bedliner, License, Title	\$42,177
<b>Bob Ridings, Inc.</b>	2026/ Ram/ 1500	Bedliner, License, Title	\$40,493

This request supports the City of Wheaton Strategic Plan 2021-2025 Strategic Priority #3 (Responsive and Efficient Services) by providing a vehicle that helps sustain vital City services. The current Unit 338 will be requested for disposal at a later date.



WHEATON MAYOR PHILIP J. SUESS

CITY MANAGER MICHAEL DZUGAN

**Budget Impact**

The total budgeted amount for the replacement of Unit 338 is \$59,442. This request is for the vehicle only and will expend \$40,493 of the total budgeted amount leaving \$18,949 for upfitting parts, graphics, and installation. These items will be procured as required during the time between the vehicle order and the vehicle delivery. The requested vehicle is expected to be approximately \$12,176 under budget after upfitting is completed. This under budget amount is from changing to a less expensive vehicle class (from van to pickup truck) and from re-using warning lights and equipment that is in good condition.

Unit 338	Budget	Vehicle Cost	Upfitting Costs	Total Cost	Over/(Under) Budget
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$ 59,442</b>	\$ 40,493	\$ 6,773	<b>\$ 47,266</b>	\$ (12,176)

**Recommendation**

Staff recommends that the City Council waive competitive bidding requirements and adopt the resolution authorizing staff to purchase one (1) 2026 Ram 1500 pickup truck from Bob Ridings, Inc. for a total amount not to exceed \$40,493.

The specifications, proposal, quotation, and City's Purchase Order are on file in the City Clerk's office for review.

**RESOLUTION R-2026-**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF ONE (1) 2026 DODGE RAM PICKUP TRUCK FROM  
BOB RIDINGS, INC. FOR A TOTAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$40,493**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Wheaton, Illinois, ("City") is an Illinois home rule municipality pursuant to the provisions of Article VII, Section 6, of the Illinois Constitution of 1970; and as such the City may exercise any power and perform any function pertaining to its government and affairs; and

**WHEREAS**, annually, the Fleet Superintendent assesses the need for vehicle replacement and has concluded that Unit 338, a 2018 Dodge Caravan community service vehicle, has exceeded replacement standards with over 102,000 miles of use; and

**WHEREAS**, the replacement vehicle is requested to be a 2026 Dodge Ram pickup truck instead of a minivan; and

**WHEREAS**, the City budgeted \$59,442 in the Fleet Services Fund for the replacement of Unit 338; and

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with the City's purchasing procedures, the City typically procures vehicles through a public bid process or from a government purchasing cooperative. Cooperative contracts undergo a thorough competitive bidding process to solicit, evaluate, and award contracts for goods and services; and

**WHEREAS**, periodically, staff seeks pricing from other vendors to confirm that cooperative contracts provide the best pricing available. In this instance, staff compared other Ram pickup trucks with similar options and equivalent Ford models on both local and national cooperative contracts. The best pricing was obtained from one of the City's existing vendors, Bob Ridings, Inc.; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to its Home Rule Powers, the City has the authority to waive the competitive bidding requirements.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Wheaton, Illinois, that:

**Section 1:** The foregoing recitals are incorporated into and are made a part of this Resolution as findings of the Mayor and the City Council.

**Section 2:** The Mayor and City Council hereby waive the competitive bidding requirement for the procurement of one (1) 2026 Dodge Ram pickup truck.

**Section 3:** The City's Purchase Order #2027013 for one (1) 2026 Dodge Ram pickup truck from Bob Ridings, Inc. located at 931 Springfield Road, Taylorville, Illinois, 62568 for a total amount not to exceed \$40,493 is hereby authorized (the "Purchase").

A copy of the City's Purchase Order #2027013 is on file with the City Clerk's office and is incorporated herein as if fully set forth as Exhibit A.

**Section 4:** City staff is authorized and directed to undertake any and all other tasks necessary, or in furtherance of, completion of the Purchase transaction.

**ADOPTED** this 17<sup>th</sup> day of February 2026.

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Mayor

ATTEST:

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City Clerk

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes:

Nays:

Absent: