DEPARTMENT: Health  

RECOMMENDED ACTION AND JUSTIFICATION: 
Discussion and direction to staff regarding the purchase of hybrid 4-wheel drive vehicles to replace traditional gasoline engine vehicles. This issue was first discussed during mid-year adjustments and the Board requested that this matter come back with additional information. There is sufficient funding in the Health Department budget to purchase the requested hybrid vehicles.

Please see the attached memorandum.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS: 
In the last couple of years the Health department has purchased two hybrid vehicles with grant monies. These vehicles were new additions and not replacement vehicles. The Fleet purchasing policy states that replacement vehicles must be similar to the vehicle that is being replaced, unless the Board specifically approves a more expensive and/or upgraded vehicle.

ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:

Financial Impact? ( ) Yes (/) No  Current FY Cost: $  
Annual Recurring Cost: $

Budgeted In Current FY? ( ) Yes ( ) No ( ) Partially Funded

Amount in Budget: $  
Additional Funding Needed: $

Source:
Internal Transfer
Unanticipated Revenue 4/5's vote
Transfer Between Funds 4/5's vote
Contingency 4/5's vote
( ) General  ( ) Other

List Attachments, number pages consecutively Memorandum

CLERK'S USE ONLY:
Res. No.: 06-182  Ord. No. ______
Vote - Ayes: 5  Noes: ______
Absent: ______
Approved
( ) Minute Order Attached  ( ) No Action Necessary

The foregoing instrument is a correct copy of the original on file in this office.
Date:
Attest: MARGIE WILLIAMS, Clerk of the Board
County of Mariposa, State of California
By: ______________________________
Deputy

COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER:
( ) Requested Action Recommended  
( ) No Opinion
Comments:

CAO: ____________________________
March 15, 2006

TO: Members, Board of Supervisors

FROM: Charles B. Mosher, MD, MPH, Health Officer

SUBJECT: Hybrid Vehicles

I understand the Board has questions about the purchase of hybrid 4 wheel drive vehicles to replace our worn out Chevy Blazers. I recommend the hybrid purchase for six reasons:

1. Environmental Health Specialists need dependable vehicles with room for all their equipment and 4 wheel drive capacity. The Chevy Blazers both more than 100,000 miles and have had major mechanical issues.

2. Hybrids put out less air pollution, which is important because of our “ozone non-attainment” designation, increasing smog impact in Mariposa County, and – most of all – because of health concerns. We now have documentation of higher childhood asthma prevalence in the Central Valley and Foothills:

   U.S. percent of children with Asthma: 12.5
   California percent of children with Asthma: 14.8
   Central Valley percent of children with Asthma: 17.4

3. Ability to demonstrate to the Air Resources Board that Mariposa County’s Air Pollution Control District is actively working to reduce ozone precursors. This will help us meet our obligations to the State and Federal Governments and we can point to our use of hybrids in our (required) written plan to reduce ozone pollution.
4. **Better fuel mileage**, especially in stop-and-go ("city") conditions. This is actually the reverse of fossil-fuel only vehicles:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>City</th>
<th>Highway</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jeep Cherokee</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ford Escape</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ford Explorer</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chevy Trailblazer</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Toyota Highlander (Hybrid)</strong></td>
<td><strong>31</strong></td>
<td><strong>27</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5. **Educational value** to the citizens of Mariposa regarding choosing vehicles that will produce less air pollution.

6. We have the **grant money** now and can obtain these vehicles at minimal General Fund expense. That grant money will soon be gone if we don’t use it.

/ga

cc: Rich Inman, CAO