

**CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION**

Resolution authorizing execution of an agreement with Hughes Fire Equipment, Inc. to purchase four replacement ambulances for the Bellevue Fire Department, in an amount not to exceed \$1,406,320 plus all applicable taxes.

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This Resolution authorizes execution of an agreement with Hughes Fire Equipment, Inc. to purchase four replacement ambulances for the Bellevue Fire Department.

**RECOMMENDATION**

Move to adopt Resolution No. 10237

**BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS**

As a core mission, the Bellevue Fire Department provides Basic Life Support (BLS) and Advanced Life Support (ALS) services to the citizens of Bellevue and six neighboring jurisdictions, encompassing a total of 43 square miles and 153,000 residents. Those jurisdictions include Beaux Arts Village, Clyde Hill, Hunts Point, Medina, Newcastle, and Yarrow Point.

On a larger scale, Bellevue's comprehensive ALS (paramedic) program contracts with King County Emergency Medical Services to provide high level patient care over a wide area, centered on the I-90 corridor just east of Seattle to the top of Snoqualmie Pass. As a regional provider of ALS, Bellevue's service area approaches 370 square miles with a population totaling nearly 281,000 residents.

Both medic and aid unit apparatus that firefighters and paramedics utilize must provide a rapid response to allow quick medical interventions and to permit safe transport of patients to a healthcare facility for more extensive care. These units give crews a well-equipped, well-lit, dry and safe area for them to administer first aid at the scene and allow the crew to transport patients to local hospitals and clinics.

The key performance measures listed below, that help maintain Bellevue's Washington Surveying and Rating Bureau class rating, can be greatly affected if emergency response apparatus are not properly maintained or replaced at proper intervals to minimize costly repairs and downtime.

- Arrival within 6 minutes from the time of call 90 percent of the time.
- Meet or exceed a cardiac save rate of 50 percent using Utstein Criteria.

Currently, the Fire Department has eight ALS medic units with four serving as frontline response vehicles and four as reserve vehicles when a frontline unit is unavailable due to service or repair. The replacements proposed in this purchase agreement will be moved to frontline status and one each of the current frontline vehicles rotated to reserve status for the remainder of their service life. All units affected by this purchase agreement have met their useful life and are scheduled for replacement in 2024.

### Environmental Stewardship Strategy

Bellevue Fire and Finance & Asset Management are committed to the mission of the Environmental Stewardship Initiative by embracing innovative green technologies where practicable to reduce the City's carbon footprint.

There is anti-engine idling technology available for this type of apparatus, however, it currently requires significant compartment space reserved for medical response equipment utilized in rapid medical intervention and safe transport of patients. Reducing medical equipment storage capacity isn't advisable because proper storage directly impacts quick and efficient access, operational processes, and response times when they are critically needed. The City will continue to research green technologies and potential EV applications for ambulances scheduled for replacement over the next few years.

This purchase will utilize an interlocal agreement between the City of Bellevue and the Houston-Galveston Area Council that has a contract in place to purchase from Life Line Emergency Vehicles. The City has benefitted from this cooperative purchasing arrangement for many years as it is a large consortium of public agencies and consequently obtains very competitive pricing.

## **POLICY & FISCAL IMPACTS**

### **Policy Impact**

#### Bellevue City Code

- BCC 4.28 provides for the fair and equitable treatment of all persons involved in the purchasing process. Council approval is required for purchases in excess of \$90,000 (Effective in April 2023, this threshold will be increased to \$350,000).
- BCC 4.28.150 authorizes the Director of Finance & Asset Management to join in cooperative purchasing arrangements with other public agencies, cooperatives or consortiums when it would be in the best interests of the City.

#### Bellevue Comprehensive Plan

- Neighborhood Element: N-2. Ensure police, fire and emergency services provide high levels of public safety that respond to growth and changing community needs.

### **Fiscal Impact**

This agreement will obligate the City to pay \$1,406,320 plus all applicable taxes, for the purchase of four new, replacement ambulances.

The source funding for the purchase is the Mechanical Equipment Rental Fund (MERF) replacement account. The City of Bellevue receives 100 percent funding from the countywide Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Levy to provide ALS services. A portion of the revenue received is for equipment and

apparatus replacement; these funds are held in MERF until replacements are needed. This expenditure is planned, and sufficient funds have been reserved as is required by the MERF Policy for the purchase. Funds received from the surplus sale of the equipment being replaced will be deposited into the MERF replacement account for the future ALS replacement needs.

### **OPTIONS**

1. Adopt the Resolution authorizing execution of an agreement with Hughes Fire Equipment, Inc. to purchase four replacement ambulances for the Bellevue Fire Department, in an amount not to exceed \$1,406,320 plus all applicable taxes.
2. Do not adopt the Resolution and provide alternative direction to staff.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

Proposed Resolution No. 10237

### **AVAILABLE IN COUNCIL LIBRARY**

Proposed purchase agreement between the City of Bellevue and Hughes Fire Equipment, Inc.  
Houston-Galveston Area Council Contract signature page