

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION

Resolution authorizing execution of an agreement with Hughes Fire Equipment, Inc. to purchase two replacement fire engines for the Bellevue Fire Department, in an amount not to exceed \$2,155,989, plus all applicable taxes.

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Fire Department

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

RECOMMENDATION

Move to adopt Resolution No. 10154

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS

The Bellevue Fire Department exists to control risk to life, property, and community vitality which may be threatened by fire or other emergency events. The Fire Department effectively responds through strategic deployment of resources and rapid response of personnel and equipment.

The Fire Department directly serves the City of Bellevue and contractually provides fire suppression, rescue, and emergency medical services to six neighboring jurisdictions, encompassing a total of 43 square miles and more than 153,000 residents. Those jurisdictions are Beaux Arts Village, Clyde Hill, Hunts Point, Medina, Newcastle, and Yarrow Point. The Department currently operates nine frontline plus four reserve fire engines deployed from nine fire stations geographically distributed to provide timely response to emergency calls for service.

The new fire engines will replace two reserve engines that have met their serviceable life. Replacing emergency response apparatus on time ensures the City is well-equipped to provide emergency services to the community, and enables the Fire Department to meet the following performance measures:

- Fires confined to room of origin
- Total emergency response time less than six minutes
- Total dollar loss from fire

Fleet Standardization

The purchase of these new fire engines represents our continued effort to standardize the City's fleet to

Pierce Manufacturing, Inc. ("Pierce") manufactured fire apparatus. Standardization provides the following benefits:

- Reduces training for Fire Department personnel on redundant systems, creating greater efficiencies of operation during emergency response.
- Increases familiarity with equipment when Fire Department personnel rotate between fire stations.
- Improves efficiency of maintenance and repairs, thus reducing equipment downtime.
- Reduces costs due to compatibility with existing equipment, inventory, and systems.

Since 2007, the Fire Department has been replacing all of its fire apparatus with Pierce manufactured equipment which has proven to be a very dependable product from both an operational and maintenance perspective.

Pierce has been in business for more than 100 years. They are a sole source manufacturer, building and assembling the entire truck at one facility. Pierce is ranked number one in sales in the United States with 37 percent of the market share. The local Pierce dealer, Hughes Fire Equipment, Inc. ("Hughes Fire Equipment") has been in business for 35 years. The City of Bellevue has operated Pierce apparatus for nearly 15 years with excellent support from both companies.

An additional advantage of purchasing from Hughes Fire Equipment is that they have a Pierce-approved warranty service center in Tacoma. Having a relatively close repair facility significantly reduces the amount of time that a frontline apparatus is out of service, during which time Fire Department staff must utilize backup reserve trucks.

Environmental Stewardship Strategy

The Bellevue Fire Department is committed to the mission of the Environmental Stewardship Initiative by embracing innovative green technologies to reduce the City's carbon footprint.

The department is evaluating electrical charging infrastructure at all new Fire facilities being constructed and those under major renovation. This is to prepare for future electric vehicles/apparatus as they become available to meet the department's operational requirements. Pierce is currently manufacturing a new electric fire engine that only uses a diesel engine when the pump system is needed to suppress fires. Since this is new technology for the fire suppression industry, research will need to occur to ensure an electric fire engine will meet the ongoing operational requirements of the Fire Department and the community it serves.

In the meantime, the City is partnering with Pierce Manufacturing to install Idle Reduction Technology (IRT) on these new fire engines. This will mitigate carbon emissions due to engine idling required by the current apparatus to power all peripheral equipment such as lighting, communications, auxiliary power, and environmental systems. The new IRT system will allow the engine to shut down when on scene and only run when the pump is required to operate for fire suppression.

Based on a four-year trend, the City's fire engines spend an average of 23 minutes idling on scene averaging four calls per day. Using this data, Pierce Manufacturing estimates the IRT system will reduce carbon emissions by 180 tons over the life of both new Fire engines. This will assist the City in meeting its goal to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 50 percent in 2030 and 80 percent in 2040, and reduce the fleet's fuel consumption.

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 Pierce Manufacturing, Inc. 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.
- BCC 4.28.150 authorizes the Director of Finance and Asset Management to join in cooperative purchasing arrangements with other public agencies, cooperatives or consortiums when it would be in the best interest of the City.

Bellevue Comprehensive Plan

- Capital Facilities Element: CF-9. Coordinate planned capital investments across departments.
- 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

Approval of this agreement will obligate the City to pay \$2,155,989, plus all applicable taxes, for the purchase of two replacement fire engines for delivery in 2025.

The source funding for the purchase is the Mechanical Equipment Rental Fund (MERF) replacement account. This expenditure is planned, and funds have been reserved as is required by the MERF policy. Funds received from the surplus sale of the equipment being replaced will be deposited into the MERF replacement account for the future replacement needs.

OPTIONS

1. Adopt the Resolution authorizing execution of an agreement with Hughes Fire Equipment, Inc. to purchase two replacement fire engines for the Bellevue Fire Department, in an amount not to exceed \$2,155,989, plus all applicable taxes.
2. Do not adopt the Resolution and provide alternative direction to staff.

ATTACHMENTS

Proposed Resolution No. 10154

AVAILABLE IN COUNCIL LIBRARY

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