

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION

Resolution authorizing execution of an agreement with Avidex in the amount of \$124,100.88, inclusive of all applicable taxes, to complete an audio/visual upgrade to the Police Department's main training room and command post.

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Police Department

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Bellevue Police Department currently utilizes a large room in the Training Unit as a joint training room and command post. The technology and equipment in this room is overdue for a major upgrade to ensure the Department can accomplish its mission and better serve the Bellevue community.

RECOMMENDATION

Move to adopt Resolution No. 9952.

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS

The Police Department's command post for major events in the City has typically resided wherever space existed inside the department, sometimes in the Captain's office and other times in the Detective Conference room. Neither room has space to accommodate more than a maximum of 20 people which does not allow for sufficient workspace. In 2020, the command post was relocated to the largest available room in the Personnel Services Unit on the third floor of City Hall which is equipped with two projectors and two white boards. The equipment is over 10 years old and frequently requires attention from staff to keep it in working order.

Additionally, the current equipment and set-up is not adequate for a command post when almost everything used now is technology based. Staff often need additional monitors and screens to show camera footage, maps, news, social media, and dispatch data as well as additional white boards for scheduling and operational information during high profile events within the City. When that need arises, staff borrow screens, monitors and white boards from other departments.

While this has worked during the COVID-19 pandemic when those items are not in use and have been available, this is not a long term, feasible solution. The City has seen an increase in high profile events over the last several years including Snowflake Lane, 4th of July, community festivals, protests, political events, and other large gatherings. Some of these are planned and some have occurred with little or no warning and require a command post be set up quickly. The events of May 31, 2020 and the subsequent 24-hour staffing of the command post for two weeks further highlighted the need for an updated command post for personnel to work from during an extended period of time as well as the need for space to accommodate internal and external partners.

This space is also used as the Department's primary room for both internal and regionally hosted police training. Updated equipment is necessary to create a successful learning environment and attract

outside vendors to hold training sessions. Hosting external trainings often results in free spots in the class for the hosting agency, saving the Department money.

The Police Department obtained a proposal from Avidex, a local audio/visual design company, which has performed similar work at multiple agencies across the region, including other projects at City Hall. Avidex is also a State of Washington Department of Enterprise Services approved contractor which means the City can have a high level of trust in its pricing and services.

Avidex has proposed a multi-faceted approach to accomplish the Department's goal of creating not only an effective command post but a quality training room as well. The updates will provide changes to the audio/visual system that include the display/projection system, video, audio, control system, cabling, and wiring. The proposed design calls for multiple screens around the room, a camera to be used for video/audio conferencing (Zoom, Skype, Microsoft Teams) and an ability to easily connect computers, smart phones, and tablets to the displays. This is done via a touchscreen controller which will display content on any of the screens.

Avidex's proposal is broken up into two different components, the command post and training room requirements, with a separate suggestion for unified communications (Zoom, Skype, Teams).

Command Post: This includes seven additional 65" LED 4K monitors around the room with an integrated A/V control system which will allow each screen to show different sources of information. This would be utilized for mapping, camera feeds, scheduling, television (news) or any other source from a computer, phone, or tablet. Additionally, these could also be used for training presentations on multiple screens for easier viewing.

Training: The training portion would be accomplished by installing two new LCD Laser Projectors to replace the aging bulb style projectors currently in use. This will allow clear, crisp presentation of training materials with the integrated A/V control system. Additionally, outside users will be able to seamlessly connect their own equipment or use the provided computer.

There will be new audio equipment and a touchscreen control center for the system.

Audio and Video Conferencing Option: To provide camera coverage of meetings held in the training room/incident command center space, a new 12X optical zoom Pan-Tilt-Zoom camera will be mounted on the back wall to provide more audio and video coverage. The camera is intended to support video conferencing such as Skype or Zoom. It can record training sessions to be used later for review of those trainings or to add additional trainings. New microphones and other A/V equipment will be added to ensure sound quality and integration with the system.

This type of system is becoming the industry standard and preferred set-up for a modern police department command post and a high-quality training room. It is designed to serve the Bellevue Police Department for many years and will help make the City a better place to live, work and visit.

POLICY & FISCAL IMPACTS

Policy Impact

Bellevue City Code 4.28 provides for the fair and equitable treatment of all persons involved in the purchasing process. Council approval is required to execute agreements that exceed \$90,000.

Fiscal Impact

Avidex provided a project total of \$124,100.88. The only additional costs include light electrical work that is estimated at about \$5,000. The Department has secured \$89,000 from the Bellevue Police Foundation through a grant and \$13,000 from an already established replacement account. The remaining amount, approximately \$22,000-\$27,000 (depending on electrical), will need to be funded in the current budget.

OPTIONS

1. Adopt the Resolution authorizing execution of an agreement with Avidex in the amount of \$124,100.88, inclusive of all applicable taxes, to complete an audio/visual upgrade to the Police Department's main training room and command post.
2. Do not adopt the Resolution and provide alternative direction to staff

ATTACHMENTS & AVAILABLE DOCUMENTS

Proposed Resolution No. 9952

AVAILABLE IN COUNCIL LIBRARY

Avidex Proposal