



City Council Memorandum

City of Arts & Innovation

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL DATE: DECEMBER 4, 2018

FROM: FIRE DEPARTMENT WARDS: ALL

SUBJECT: MEASURE Z – PURCHASE OF 190 FIRE RADIOS FROM MOTOROLA SOLUTIONS, INC. THROUGH THE HOUSTON-GALVESTON AREA COUNCIL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,777,419.47 AND A 7.5% CHANGE ORDER AUTHORITY

ISSUES:

Approve the purchase of 190 fire radios from Motorola Solutions, Inc., of Chicago, IL, through the Houston-Galveston Area Council (HGAC) in the amount of \$1,777,419.47 and a 7.5% change order authority.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the City Council:

1. Approve the purchase of 190 fire radios from Motorola Solutions, Inc., of Chicago, IL, through the Houston-Galveston Area Council (HGAC) in the amount of \$1,777,419.47;
2. Authorize additional change order authority for the purchase of the fire radios in the amount of up to 7.5%; and
3. Authorize the City Manager, or designee, to execute all documents necessary to complete the financing, including making minor and non-substantive changes.

BACKGROUND:

Radio communications is an essential element for firefighters to perform their day-to-day duties of fighting fire and responding to emergency and non-emergency calls for service. It is paramount that fire departments maintain a communication system that is reliable in the dense downtown areas, in high-rise buildings with concrete and steel make up and that also operates well in the rural areas with varying terrains.

Riverside Fire Department (RFD) has a radio system that is more than ten years old and has become a grave concern for firefighter safety and reliability in their everyday use in extreme firefighting conditions and emergency incidents. After many years of use, the quality of the

current radios used by RFD has severely diminished resulting in the following:

1. Increased radio maintenance costs over the last several years due to failing components and features;
2. Decreased reliability due to issues with failing connections from the radio to the battery causing the radio to shut off without the user noticing;
3. Model currently in use has been discontinued making it impossible to replenish the Departments uniformed standard equipment cache; and
4. Technology of model currently in use is no longer up to industry standards and fire service readiness for emergency safety.

DISCUSSION:

Considering the imminent need for radios, the Fire Department applied for funding in the amount of \$1.7 million dollars through the Department of Homeland Security 2017 Assistance to Firefighter Grant (AFG) in February 2018. However, realizing the critical safety threats posed to firefighters, the City Council approved a \$2-million-dollar contingency fund, from Measure Z, on June 12, 2018 to purchase the radios in the event the AFG was not approved.

On September 12, 2018, RFD was notified that the grant application was not approved and the Finance Department was immediately notified to begin the procurement process to purchase the 190 radios and required charging stations.

Motorola Solutions, Inc. maintains a Cooperative Agreement with Houston-Galveston Area Council (HGAC) to perform services related to radio communications/emergency response and mobile interoperability equipment as identified in the attached HGACBuy Contract No. RA05-48.

The HGACBuy Cooperative Agreement would be utilized for the purchase of the radios from Motorola Solutions, Inc. in accordance with attached Purchasing Resolution No. 23256, Section 602 (e), which provides that Competitive Procurement shall not be required when Cooperative Purchasing is available and undertaken or when Goods can be obtained through Federal, State or other public entity pricing contracts or price agreements.

The Purchasing Manager concurs with the recommendation and that this purchase is in compliance the Purchasing Resolution No. 23256, Section 602 (e).

FISCAL IMPACT:

The total fiscal impact is \$1,777,419.47 and sufficient funds are budgeted in Measure Z Fund 110, Fiscal Management Account 3510009-450247.

Prepared by: Michael D. Moore, Fire Chief
Certified as to
availability of funds: Edward Enriquez, Interim Chief Financial Officer/City Treasurer

Approved by: Lea Deesing, Assistant City Manager
Approved as to form: Gary G. Geuss, City Attorney

Attachments:

- 1.) Quote
- 2.) Cooperative Agreement – Motorola Solutions, Inc. – Public Services – 18-00196
- 3.) HGACBuy Cooperative Purchase Program Invitation No. RA05-48
- 4.) Photo