



City Council Memorandum

City of Arts & Innovation

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL DATE: JUNE 4, 2019

FROM: FIRE DEPARTMENT WARDS: ALL

**SUBJECT: MEASURE Z – BID NO. 1919 FOR PURCHASE OF BENDIX KING HANDHELD
RADIOS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$143,612.50 WITH SILVERADO AVIONICS AND
BID NO. 7688 FOR PURCHASE OF FIELD RADIO VOICE AMPLIFIERS IN THE
AMOUNT OF \$59,812.50 WITH ALL STAR FIRE EQUIPMENT**

ISSUES:

Award Bid No. 1919 for the purchase of Bendix King Handheld radios to Silverado Avionics in the amount of \$143,612.50 and award Bid No. 7688 for the purchase of the field radio voice amplifiers to All Star Fire Equipment in the amount of \$59,812.50.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the City Council:

1. Award Bid No. 1919 for the purchase of Bendix King Handheld radios to Silverado Avionics in the amount of \$143,612.50; and
2. Award Bid No. 7688 for the purchase of the field radio voice amplifiers to All Star Fire Equipment in the amount of \$59,812.50; 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:

Riverside Fire Department (RFD) is part of the Statewide Mutual Aid system that allows RFD firefighters and resources to be deployed to emergency incidents throughout the State of California. During these incidents, RFD firefighters are required to communicate and work cooperatively with various state, federal and local agencies to mitigate emergencies, therefore, radio communications are paramount to firefighter and community safety.

Standardizing radio communications is an essential element for firefighters on Mutual Aid assignments as agencies often maintain varying types of radios and radio signals such as Very High Frequency (VHF) and Ultra High Frequency (UHF). RFD's current cache of standardized

radios for Mutual Aid incidents, known as the Bendix King (BK) radios, are 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 \$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, 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. On December 4, 2018, City Council approved the purchase of the fire radios from Motorola in the amount of \$1,775,590.73, which provided a \$224,409.27 savings of unused Measure Z funds.

The request for the Bendix King Radios differ from the previously purchased Motorola radios greatly in their ability to be programmed during Statewide Mutual Aid incidents which are required while assigned to an incident. This programmability allows Riverside firefighters to communicate with other fire agencies throughout the State of California while on wildland incidents which provides a critical safety element. The field radio voice amplifiers are essential equipment needed to support the radio communications. While on fire incidents, firefighters wear SCBA masks that deliver a muffled sound when communicating. The voice amplifiers provide clear and effective communication for firefighters while on the fire ground or in threatening situations.

In accordance Purchasing Resolution No. 23256, Bid No. 1919 the purchase of the Bendix King handheld radios was posted with Silverado Avionics coming in as the lowest bidder with a bid of \$143,612.50.

Also in accordance with Purchasing Resolution No. 23256, Bid No. 7688 for the purchase of field radio voice amplifiers was posted twice as there were no bids received initially. All Star Fire Equipment came in as the lowest bidder during the second bidding process with a bid of \$59,812.50.

Staff is requesting that City Council award Bid No. 1919 to Silverado Avionics for the purchase of Bendix King Handheld radio in the amount of \$143,612.50 and award Bid No. 7688 to All Star Fire Equipment for the purchase of the field radio voice amplifiers in the amount of \$59,812.50.

The Purchasing Service Manager concurs that the recommended actions comply with Purchasing Resolution No. 23256.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The total Fiscal Impact of the proposed purchases is \$203,425.00. Sufficient funds are available in account 110-3510009-450247 (Measure Z). There is no Fiscal Impact to the General Fund.

Prepared by: Michael D. Moore, Fire Chief
Certified as to
availability of funds: Edward Enriquez, Chief Financial Officer/City Treasurer
Approved by: Lea Deesing, Assistant City Manager
Approved as to form: Gary G. Geuss, City Attorney

Attachments:

- 1.) Bid Recommendation for Bid No. 1919
- 2.) Bid Recommendation for Bid No. 7688
- 3.) Bendix King Radios - Photo
- 4.) Field Radio Voice Amplifiers - Photo
- 5.) Measure Z Updated Spending Plan