



City Council Agenda Item

City Council Meeting Date: December 21, 2021

TO: Jim Throop, City Manager

FROM: Alicia Welch, Fire Chief
a_welch@ci.lompoc.ca.us

Dirk Ishiwata, Fleet & Park Maintenance Manager
d_ishiwata@ci.lompoc.ca.us

SUBJECT: Award of a Contract Purchase Order for Purchase of a 2021 Pierce Type 1 Fire Engine in the Amount of \$793,673.44

Recommendation:

Staff recommends the City Council award a contract purchase order for the purchase of a 2021 Pierce 1500 GPM Triple Combination Pumping Engine on an Enforcer chassis from South Coast Fire Equipment Inc. in the amount of \$793,673.44.

Background:

The City's Fire Department is dedicated to providing the highest level of service possible in order to safeguard life, property, and the environment. Through its mission, the infrastructure and equipment utilized serves as the foundation for success, and the community's economic vitality.

Currently, the Fire Department has a fire suppression fleet of ten apparatus: four engines (Type 1), one brush truck (Type 3), two rescues (Type 6), and three command vehicles (chief officer response vehicles).

The fleet make up is broken down on the following Table 1.

December 21, 2021

Award of Contract Purchase Order for Fire Engine Purchase

Page 2 of 4

Year/Make	Mileage	Hours
1998 KME Type 1 Engine 151	113,505	102*
2002 KME Type 1 Engine 152	119,865	1358*
2008 Ford F-450 Reserve Rescue 151	54,053	n/a
2008 KME Type 1 Engine 52	101,860	11164.9
2011 Chevy Tahoe (Fire Chief car)	99,965	n/a
2014 KME Type 3 Brush Engine 351	56,918	3333
2015 GMC Yukon XL Command 51	32,263	n/a
2015 Chevy 2500 HD Battalion Vehicle	53,289	n/a
2016 Ford Fusion (School/Inspector car)	45,752	n/a
2018 Honda Pioneer (side by side ATV)	n/a	166.8
2019 Dodge Ram 5500 Rescue 51	9,439	n/a
2021 Pierce Type I Engine 51	2,911	121

Table 1

*These apparatus had mechanical work and gauges replaced; actual hours may vary.

It has always been the Fire Department's goal to follow industry standard articulated in NFPA 1911, *The Standard for Inspection, Maintenance, Testing, and Retirement of In-Service Automotive Fire Apparatus*, outlining the standard for replacement of apparatus at a maximum in-service usage of 25 years. The current two front line units are 13 years and 1 month old, with a 23-year-old and a 19-year-old reserve engine. These two engines have been increasingly challenging for the Fleet Division to maintain and to find parts for, given their ages. This challenge tends to keep our front line apparatus down longer, due to the inability to turnaround the repairs in the older fleet. A second Type 1 engine will alleviate this problem by allowing us to remove the 23 year old engine from the fleet.

In addition to the apparatus listed above, the Fire Department's current Brush Truck (Type 3) is 7 years old, along with a 3-year-old Rescue Truck, and a 13-year-old reserve Rescue Truck. The fleet replacement plan is improving, other than the significant problem of the Aerial Ladder Truck being removed from service earlier in 2021 due to failed mechanical systems, which were cost prohibitive to repair.

Discussion:

Apparatus replacement should be done through proper planning and budgeting. There are a number of recommended guidelines, or best practices, that identify an expected replacement date for fire apparatus. A systematic replacement plan is beneficial for the safety of personnel and the public. Additionally, a sound financial plan allows stakeholders (both internal and external) to better predict the needs of the department and establishes how the leadership is working to meet those needs in the most prudent manner that is clear and can be easily understood.

Annual budget forecasting for the maintenance of these expensive resources is necessary. It is important to note that as apparatus becomes older, the costs for

December 21, 2021

Award of Contract Purchase Order for Fire Engine Purchase

Page 3 of 4

maintenance often increase as well. Following installation of a new tracking software at the Fleet Division in 2017, Fleet is now able to better track and calculate increases in maintenance costs. In 2019, Fleet identified a 19.41% increase in apparatus maintenance.

In reflection of this valuable information and data collection, the replacement considerations of apparatus should also include a number of other factors. Those factors include but are not limited to:

- Wear and tear on the vehicle;
- Mileage or service hours;
- Call volume;
- Size of district;
- Safety considerations of current vehicle and safety enhancements available; and
- Age of vehicle.

In a proactive approach, the Fire Department's apparatus committee, in consultation with Fleet Services, worked through a new specification for the first 2021 Pierce Engine built by South Coast Fire Equipment, Inc. Since those initial meetings, Fire Department personnel brought more innovation, enhancing the specifications of the second engine while enhancing safety features. The current bid is attached.

Fiscal Impact:

The current contract proposal provides a vehicle build price for a 2021 Pierce (Type 1) for \$793,673.44. The vehicle specifications have been reviewed and recommended for approval by the Facilities, and Fleet and Fire Department managers.

After conducting a good faith review of available sources, Pierce and South Coast Fire Equipment, Inc. are the only sources for the equipment required to meet the City's unique specifications. The Pierce Fire Engine from South Coast provides a competitive price, firefighter safety features, consistency among the Type 1 apparatus, and will be complete within approximately 15 months from issuance of the Contract Purchase Order.

This timeframe will allow Management Services a number of options to secure resources. Either through the Capital Improvements Program or by establishing a separate budget line in the Biennial Budget Fiscal Years 2023-25. These options can be analyzed and brought back to the City Council to best utilize future resources.

Conclusion:

Staff recommends that the City Council grant the City Manager's authority to sign and award the contract for one Pierce brand Fire Apparatus from South Coast Fire Equipment Inc. in the amount of \$793,673.44. This addition will begin to move the Fire Department's

December 21, 2021

Award of Contract Purchase Order for Fire Engine Purchase

Page 4 of 4

fleet towards the national standard of fleet replacement and reduce undue service interruption noted by maintaining older vehicles.

Respectfully submitted,

Alicia Welch, Fire Chief

Dirk Ishiwata, Facilities, Fleet, and Park Maintenance Manager

APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL TO THE CITY MANAGER:

Mike Luther, Public Works Director

APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL TO THE CITY COUNCIL:

Jim Throop, City Manager

Attachment: Pierce Bid