

City Council Staff Report

Subject: Fire Station Alerting System

Date: June 27, 2023

Submitted By: Chris Hertel, Battalion Chief

Department: Fire

Recommendation:

Adopt a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Rocklin Approving the Use of the National Purchasing Partners Cooperative Purchasing Agreement with US Digital Designs, Inc. for the Fire Station Alerting System Purchase; and Authorize the City Manager to Make the Purchase.

Background:

The City of Rocklin Fire Department operates three fire stations strategically located throughout the city, is comprised of 43 full-time employees, and protects a population of over 73,000 residents. In calendar year 2022 the Fire Department responded to 6,422 incidents.

The Fire Station Alerting (FSA) system is used to notify fire personnel of an incident from the Public Safety Dispatch Center. The primary goal of a FSA system is to rapidly reduce response times for first responders through a coordinated effort from dispatch centers and fire stations. The current FSA system was installed more than 25 years ago, with some upgrades made in 2020. The recommended replacement schedule for a FSA system is approximately 15 years. The current FSA system is past its useful life and the components are no longer supported by the manufacturer. The Fire Department has budgeted funding in both Fiscal Years 2022/23 and 2023/24 for this project.

Fire Department staff has selected the Phoenix G2 - Automated Fire Station Alerting system from US Digital Designs, Inc., a subsidiary of Honeywell, as the replacement FSA system. Phoenix G2 meets or exceeds the National Fire Protection Agency (NFPA) 1710 recommendations for response times.

The Phoenix G2 dynamic deployment model will provide enhanced performance in four critical areas: decreased response times, maximized situational awareness, streamlined dispatch process and seamless IT integration. Alerts from dispatch are delivered almost instantly to one or more stations simultaneously by computer automated voice. Visual and auditory peripherals throughout the station provide alert information so first responders are better-informed when they arrive on the scene. Ramping tones, lights and zoned alerting only notify on-call units. Automated dispatch alerting streamlines the process for dispatchers, helping to reduce stress.

Uptime is maximized under NFPA 1221 compliance redundant alerting pathways and manual alerting, so it can run during communication failures. A final additional benefit is the interoperability of this system with neighboring agencies, like the City of Roseville, allowing the Roseville dispatch center to view the availability of Rocklin apparatus for mutual aid calls.

The City, by utilizing the cooperative agreement with National Purchasing Partners (NPPGOV), can leverage the advantageous pricing, and terms and conditions already negotiated. The City's competitive bid process would unlikely realize the cost savings the US Digital Designs by Honeywell contract offers (Agreement PS20350). The City of Rocklin is already a member of NPPGOV. The cost of the new FSA system is approximately \$510,000, before taxes.

Sections C and D of the Rocklin Municipal Code Chapter 3.04 authorize the City to piggyback contracts and enter into cooperative purchase arrangements with other governmental entities if a government agency has solicited bids and awarded a contract for the goods and services which the City desires to obtain. Staff recommends the City Council authorize the purchase of the replacement FSA system.

Fiscal Impact:

Sufficient resources are available in the General Fund (100) to support the recommended purchase in an amount not to exceed \$550,000.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Resolution with Exhibit A (US Digital Designs, Inc. Project Quotation)