



CITY OF GLENDALE, CALIFORNIA REPORT TO THE CITY COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM

Report: Fire Department - Ferno Washington Ambulance Gurney Purchase

Resolution to dispense with competitive bidding and authorize the Deputy Director of Finance – Purchasing to issue purchase order agreements with Ferno Washington in the amount of \$84,318 over the next three years.

COUNCIL ACTION

Item Type: Action

Approved for 05/23/2023 **calendar**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Glendale Fire Department requests to dispense with competitive bidding and authorize the Deputy Director of Finance - Purchasing to issue a purchase order agreement with Ferno Washington (known also as Ferno) to be used to purchase one powered bariatric gurney and to maintain our fleet of standard ambulance gurneys.

COUNCIL PRIORITIES

Fiscal Responsibility
Exceptional Customer Service

RECOMMENDATION

Dispense with competitive bidding and authorizing the Deputy Director of Finance-Purchasing to issue purchase order agreements with Ferno Washington over the next three years.

BACKGROUND

The Fire Department has been engaged with a purchase order contract with Ferno Washington for ambulance gurneys for the last 23 years in our vehicle fleet. The Fire Department operates and maintains a fleet of sixteen front line Ferno PRO 28Z ambulance cots. These particular gurneys are preferred by the Glendale Fire Department due to their convertible configuration into a chair, which is routinely needed to fit into the many small apartment elevators in our city to which we respond. Gurneys made by competitors do not have this convertible chair feature, and therefore may not

always fit into small elevators, causing the crews to carry patients down stairwells. This report is necessary to purchase one Ferno IN/X Bariatric Power Cot without going out to bid for another manufacturer model. This powered gurney would be assigned to our dedicated bariatric ambulance (BLS 921) and would respond to patients that exceed 500 pounds in weight and would replace our obsolete manual bariatric gurney.

Managing very large bariatric patients is challenging, and the risk of injury to emergency responders and patients increases during this management. A powered gurney reduces the level of manual manipulation required for our responders to safely transport these patients to hospitals for definitive care. There are other companies that manufacture bariatric ambulance gurneys (most prominently Stryker) and are comparable in price, but with Ferno we would be able to maintain a seamless relationship with our existing PO and be able to have consistency with gurney maintenance and operations throughout our fleet. Additionally, our Ambulance Operator Coordinator is certified as a Ferno technician, and he conducts repairs and routine maintenance on our Ferno equipment. The addition of another brand of gurney would require the cost of a third-party maintenance contract.

ANALYSIS

The Fire Department is very happy with our Ferno frontline gurneys. Their features are unique and well suited for the types of buildings to which we respond, and our certified Ferno gurney technician can maintain the equipment in-house. The Department had 26 responses that qualified for the use of the bariatric gurney in the last three years. This equipment has the potential to reduce the chance of injury to responders and patients alike and considering that the costs for workers compensation claims and employee backfill are significant, each response of this type may benefit from this powered equipment. Maintaining a fleet of gurneys from the same manufacturer carries benefits from an operational, maintenance and service perspective.

STAKEHOLDERS/OUTREACH

N/A

FISCAL IMPACT

The existing PO with Ferno Washington expires in 2025. For the remainder of FY 2023 and the next two years our PO carries \$28,000 in funding, and there would be a one-time purchase of a powered bariatric gurney in the amount of \$56,318.29 for a grand total of \$84,318.29. The Fire Department is currently budgeted to cover the cost of this purchase through the existing PO and no new appropriation is being requested.

Existing Appropriation

Amount	Account String	Funding Source
\$84,318.29	43110-1010-GFD-4001	General Fund

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW (CEQA/NEPA)

There is no possibility that the acceptance of the request to dispense with competitive bidding may have a significant effect on the environment.

CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE

N/A

ALTERNATIVES

Alternative 1: Approve as requested by the Fire Department.

Alternative 2: Deny the Fire Department's request.

Alternative 3: The City Council may consider any other alternative not proposed by staff.

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION

Prepared by:

Todd Tucker, Battalion Chief

Approved by:

Roubik R. Golanian, P.E., City Manager

EXHIBITS/ATTACHMENTS

N/A