



# CITY COUNCIL AGENDA STATEMENT



August 6, 2019

File ID: 19-0342

## **TITLE**

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHULA VISTA APPROVING A PURCHASE AGREEMENT WITH U.S. DIGITAL DESIGNS FOR THE INSTALLATION OF REPLACEMENT FIRE STATION ALERTING SYSTEMS AT SIX FIRE STATIONS UTILIZING PUBLIC PROCUREMENT AUTHORITY (PPA), MASTER PRICE AGREEMENT (MPA) NPP RFP #1425

## **RECOMMENDED ACTION**

Council adopt the resolution.

## **SUMMARY**

The Fire Department is requesting approval for a purchase agreement with U.S. Digital Designs for the installation of replacement fire station alerting systems at six of the City's existing fire stations. The total \$ 590,233.44 is budgeted for in the fiscal year 2019/20 Measure P Expenditure Plan.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW**

The Director of Development Services has reviewed the proposed project for compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and has determined that the project qualifies for a Categorical Exemption pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15301 Class 1 (Existing Facilities), Section 15303 class 3 (New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures), and Section 15061(b)(3), because it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment. Thus, no further environmental review is required.

## **BOARD/COMMISSION/COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

Not applicable

## **DISCUSSION**

The Fire Department's overall ability to respond to emergency calls for service in a timely manner is contingent upon several critical components and systems. One of those critical systems is a reliable and effective fire station alerting system (FSAS). The FSAS has a direct impact on overall response times, specifically turnout times. Overall response times include three distinct time segments that are analyzed and compared against established local and national performance metrics. The three distinct time segments include 1) dispatch center call processing times, 2) turnout times, and 3) travel times.

The intent of an FSAS is to quickly and effectively notify fire personnel at a fire station of an emergency call for service. The fire station alerting system provides a direct link between our fire communication center, the City's network and each fire station to notify fire personnel while in quarters at a fire station.

The City's current fire stations have a FSAS that was initially designed twenty years ago with varying installation dates based on fire station age. The current FSAS is unreliable and intermittently fails at one or more fire stations on a weekly basis. Most of the issues center around the current FSAS dropping network connectivity between the associated hardware, software and/or network systems. Despite repeated attempts between our current FSAS vendor, the City's Information Technology department and the City's contracted fire communications center (the City of San Diego Fire-Rescue Department's Emergency Command & Data Center (ECDC)) to resolve these issues, our current FSAS remains unreliable and ineffective.

After extensive research by staff from the City's Information Technology department, Fire Department and the ECDC, it was determined that the purchase and installation of replacement FSAS at all Chula Vista fire stations is the best course of action. The research further concluded that U.S. Digital's (USDD) Phoenix G2 Fire Station Alerting System is the most current, reliable and effective FSAS in the industry. Several other cities have already installed the USDD FSAS in their fire stations, including the City of San Diego, City of Coronado and other fire department throughout Southern California.

USDD's Phoenix G2 FSAS is well designed to take advantage of current and future technology improvements. The system is designed to allow for future adjustments and changes with different hardware options. The reliability and performance of the Phoenix G2 FSAS has been proven to be successful in several other fire departments. The Phoenix G2 FSAS designed for the six Chula Vista fire stations includes several replacement hardware devices that should help improve turnout times. These hardware devices include numerous audible and visual warning devices including combination speaker light strobes, ambient noise cut out devices, incident information screens and live response time clocks. In addition, the Phoenix G2 FSAS includes an application that enables Fire Department personnel to receive critical incident information and map routing on department issued cellular phones carried by all personnel.

The installation of USDD's Phoenix G2 FSAS will improve reliability, trouble shooting and solutions in a timely and cost-effective manner. USDD's FSAS is already integrated into ECDC's network and Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system with trained staff that monitor, diagnose and repair any issues. The use of USDD's FSAS will decrease Chula Vista's Information Technology department staff time currently required for FSAS at all fire stations.

The need to replace the existing FSAS at six of the City's fire stations was identified and budgeted for as a critical asset in the Fire Department's portion of the City's overall Measure P Expenditure Plan. All current and future fire station construction projects include a USDD FSAS as part of their design and construction. These new fire station construction projects include Millenia (station 10), station 5 and station 9.

The USDD proposal is derived from the current Public Procurement Authority (PPA), Master Price Agreement (MPA) and available to members of National Purchase Partners (NPP), LLC dba FireRescueGPO; valid thru 8/21/2020 per NPP RFP #1425. The Finance Department has reviewed this master purchase agreement to ensure that it meets the requirements of Municipal Code Section 2.56.140 (Cooperative Purchasing Agreements). This proposal is further aligned and supported by Municipal Code Section 2.56.070.B.4 (unique performance capability of a single source not subject to competitive bidding requirement.)

### **DECISION-MAKER CONFLICT**

No property within 1,000 feet: Staff has reviewed the property holdings of the City of Chula Vista City Council members and has found no property holdings within 1,000 feet of the boundaries of the property which is the subject of this action. Consequently, this item does not present a disqualifying real property-related financial conflict of interest under California Code of Regulations Title 2, section 18702.2(a)(7) or (8), for purposes of the Political Reform Act (Cal. Gov't Code §87100, et seq.).

Staff is not independently aware, and has not been informed by any [Insert appropriate Legislative Body name] member, of any other fact that may constitute a basis for a decision-maker conflict of interest in this matter.

### **LINK TO STRATEGIC GOALS**

The City's Strategic Plan has five major goals: Operational Excellence, Economic Vitality, Healthy Community, Strong and Secure Neighborhoods and a Connected Community.

The award of this contract with USDD will enable the Fire Department to install new FSAS at six of the City's existing fire stations. The new alerting system will provide better reliability, improved situational awareness and improved turnout times, which have a direct positive impact on overall response times to emergency calls for service in support of operational excellence, strong and secure neighborhoods.

### **CURRENT-YEAR FISCAL IMPACT**

The total \$590,233.44 will be paid via Measure P funds and has been included in the Fiscal Year 2019/20 Measure P spending plan in CIP Project # GGV0243. Staff has added a 5% contingency over the total proposal price of \$562,127.08 to manage any potential changes that are necessary and pre-approved by staff during the installation of each station's FSAS.

### **ONGOING FISCAL IMPACT**

The annual maintenance and service contracts for the six new FSAS are included in the initial purchase agreement which will cover the City until fiscal year 2025. Future annual maintenance and service contracts will start in fiscal year 2025/26. The estimated ongoing annual costs are \$20,972. During the Fiscal Year 2025/26 budget development, staff will submit a funding plan for these annual maintenance and service contracts.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

- 1) USDD Proposal – CA-CHV1004
- 2) US Digital Design Letter

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