



## CITY OF VANCOUVER

### ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Report Date: March 21, 2006  
Author: T. Easterbrook  
Phone No.: 604.665.6052  
RTS No.: 05943  
VanRIMS No.: 03-1200-11  
Meeting Date: May 30, 2006

TO: Vancouver City Council

FROM: General Manager/Fire Chief, Vancouver Fire and Rescue Services  
Manager, Materials Management in consultation with the General Manager  
of Engineering Services

SUBJECT: Award of PS04029 - 125 foot Aerial Ladder Fire Apparatus

#### RECOMMENDATION

- A. THAT, subject to the conditions set out in Recommendations B, C, D and E, Council authorize the General Manager of Engineering Services and Manager of Materials Management to award PS04029 for the supply and delivery of two (2) 125 foot Aerial Ladder Fire Apparatus with Ancillary Equipment to Safetek Emergency Vehicles at a total cost of \$1,992,000 plus GST (less any municipal rebate received) and PST (where applicable) and provincial levies.
- B. THAT, the Director of Legal Services be authorized to execute and deliver on behalf of the City all legal documents, required to implement Recommendation A.
- C. THAT, all such legal documents be on terms and conditions satisfactory to the General Manager of Engineering Services, Manager of Materials Management and the Director of Legal Services.
- D. THAT, no legal rights or obligations will be created by Council's adoption of Recommendation A, B, and C above unless and until such legal documents are executed and delivered by the Director of Legal Services.
- E. THAT, funding for the purchase described in Recommendation A be provided from the Truck and Equipment Plant Account.

## COUNCIL POLICY

Council approves allocations from Reserves, including the Truck and Equipment Plant Account.

Contracts with a value over \$300,000.00 are referred to Council.

## PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to request authority from Council to purchase two (2) 125 foot aerial ladder trucks for the Vancouver Fire and Rescue Services (VFRS).

## BACKGROUND

VFRS has identified the need to increase the reach requirement of two (2) of their aerial ladders from 105 feet to 125 feet. Aerial ladder trucks are fire apparatus that allow firefighters to conduct rescues from and fight fires in high buildings. Formerly, VFRS had two aerial devices that were capable of 125 foot reaches, however, they were taken out of service due to age in 1996.

## DISCUSSION

There are currently six (6) active 105 foot aerial apparatus in the fleet which consists of five (5) 105 foot aerial ladder trucks and one (1) 105 foot aerial platform. VFRS is also authorized to maintain two (2) reserve aerial apparatus to be utilized as replacement trucks in the event of breakdowns, routine maintenance, and to enhance fire fighting capabilities in the event of large scale emergencies requiring the aid of off duty personnel.

The 105 foot aerials have been used successfully in the past for firefighting and rescue in low rise as well as in high rise buildings. However, with the development of buildings that are up to 70 stories high or 700 feet in height, and with fire apparatus having to set up further away from the base of buildings in order to clear structures and other obstacles, the current 105 foot aerials are not as effective as they once were. Recently, there have been a number of incidents where a reach greater than that provided by the 105 foot ladders would have increased effectiveness. The additional twenty (20) feet in length gives VFRS the ability to access an additional two (2) stories in high rise buildings.

VFRS have determined that two (2) aerial ladder trucks with a 125 feet reach are required to effectively service the City of Vancouver in the event of emergencies. 125 foot aerial ladders trucks provide the longest reach without the need to retrain members. The rest of the aerial ladder fleet will maintain the 105 foot aerial apparatus.

The chart below shows the current aerial ladder fleet and what is required for future operations:

Authorized Fleet		Future Fleet	
		125 Active Aerial Ladder	2
105 Active Aerial Ladder	5	105 Active Aerial Ladder	3
105 Reserve Aerial Ladder	2	105 Reserve Aerial Ladder	2
105 Aerial Platform	1	105 Aerial Platform	1
TOTAL	8	TOTAL	8

VFRS researched the market to see which vendors could supply an aerial ladder truck with a 125 feet reach. It was found that only Safetek Emergency Vehicles was able to meet this requirement. A Notice of Intent to Contract was advertised on the BC Bid and the City of Vancouver websites. No interest from other vendors was received and negotiations commenced with Safetek.

### FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The proposal pricing provided by Safetek Emergency Vehicles who are the Canadian representatives for Smeal is \$996,000 for each 125 foot aerial ladder truck. The existing units were scheduled for replacement in the 2004 Replacement Program year and the negotiated price is within the estimated replacement budget of \$1,003,000.

Equipment Services has been consulted and the funds for the purchase of these units will be available through the Truck and Equipment Plant Account. The Truck and Equipment Plant Account will be repaid through internal rental rates from the VFRS Operating Budget.

### CONCLUSION

Accordingly, we recommend acceptance of the proposal negotiated with Safetek Emergency Vehicles for two (2) new 2006 125 foot Aerial Ladder Fire Truck with Ancillary Equipment at a total cost of \$1,992,000 (\$952,418 each plus \$43,582 each for outfitting).

\* \* \* \* \*