



## CITY OF VANCOUVER

### ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Report Date: March 9, 2006  
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VanRIMS No.: 03-1000-11  
Meeting Date: March 21, 2006

TO: Vancouver City Council

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

SUBJECT: Award of Proposal PS05031 - The Supply and Delivery of 49 Extrication Tools and Equipment

#### RECOMMENDATION

- A. THAT, in order to provide uniform extrication tools and equipment to all VFRS apparatus, including reserves, Council approve the purchase of eleven (11) extrication tool sets as an addition to the Fire & Rescue Services (VFRS) equipment fleet at a cost of \$149,254.01 plus GST (less any municipal rebate received) and PST (where applicable); funding is available within existing rental rate funding approved by Council for replacement of 38 extrication tools on July 6, 2004.
- B. THAT, subject to the conditions set out in Recommendations C, D, and E, Council authorize the General Manager of Engineering Services, the General Manager/Fire Chief, Vancouver Fire and Rescue Services and the Manager, Materials Management to enter into agreements with K.G.C. Fire Rescue Incorporated at an estimated cost of \$688,464.19 and Levitt-Safety Limited at an estimated cost of \$128,728.53 for the purchase of forty-nine (49) extrication tools with source of funding to come from the Truck and Equipment Plant Account.
- C. THAT, the Director of Legal Services be authorized to execute and deliver on behalf of the City all legal documents required to implement Recommendation B.

- D. THAT all such legal documents be on terms and conditions satisfactory to the General Manager of Engineering Services, the General Manager/Fire Chief of Vancouver Fire and Rescue Services and the Manager of Materials Management.
- E. THAT no legal rights or obligations will be created by Council's adoption of Recommendation B, C, and D above unless and until such legal documents are executed and delivered by the Director of Legal Services.

## **COUNCIL POLICY**

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

Council approves all increases in service levels including the addition of equipment to the fleet and increases to operating budgets.

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

## **PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's approval to award the contract for the purchase of extrication tools and to authorize the additional purchase of eleven (11) extrication tool sets as part of the regular replacement plan through the Truck and Equipment Plant Account.

## **BACKGROUND**

Vancouver Fire and Rescue Services (VFRS) is the only agency in the City of Vancouver capable of rescuing people who are trapped in vehicles involved in motor vehicle accidents or in buildings that require forcible entry. VFRS has been providing this service for the last twenty-five (25) years. These extrication tools are past their serviceable life and require replacement. Advances in vehicle construction including the use of new stronger materials, have made tools currently in use less than effective at extricating trapped victims. The existing inventory of tools is very old and is not as effective to cut through the new metal alloys in use.

In July 2004, Council approved a regular replacement plan for specialized extrication equipment to be funded from the Truck and Equipment Plant Account. At that time, thirty-eight (38) hydraulic and electric extrication tool sets were requested at a cost of \$1,028,000.00. Several factors have led to the conclusion that it is appropriate to request a further purchase of eleven (11) tool sets to equip all remaining apparatus, including reserves, with the same extrication capabilities.

The benefits are: increased emergency preparedness for current and future large-scale events; uniformity of equipped apparatus and improved response to major emergencies, and the ability to provide an immediate replacement when an active unit is in for repairs. The purchase of additional units can be accomplished within the existing funding authorized by Council in July, 2004.

## DISCUSSION

On June 9, 2005 the City issued a Request for Proposal (RFP PS05031) for the supply and delivery of extrication tools and equipment. The objective of this RFP was to obtain extrication tool sets to replace and complement the existing extrication tool sets in a replacement cycle of two (2) purchases. In order to fulfill this requirement, prices were requested through the RFP for products that reflected both the current and future technological advances in extrication tools and equipment. In addition to notifying incumbent suppliers to the City and other well known vendors, the RFP was placed on the City's and BC Purchasing Commission's website.

Three (3) proposals were received and opened on July 6, 2005 and referred to the General Manager/Fire Chief and the Manager of Materials Management for evaluation and report. The three (3) proposals were evaluated by a five (5) person evaluation team. The subjective factors of the proposals were evaluated individually by team members and a composite score was assigned to each proposal. Using a value equalization analysis on prices quoted, the proponent's financial offering was included within the overall evaluation after the subjective factors were scored.

Key evaluation criteria were as follows:

### Proponent Qualifications

Factors considered included the proponent's history and experience, references, ability to provide a contact to handle the needs of the VFRS, business and technical reputation and capabilities, financial stability, service, experience of its key personnel, ability to comply with all City insurance and financial requirements and product offering.

### General Requirements

Requirements for VFRS extrication tools and equipment were compiled through specifications listed in the RFP as basic minimum requirements. The proponents were required to meet or exceed these specifications.

Other factors considered included the proponents capability of meeting the product and service needs of the VFRS, quality of the equipment proposed, quality of the service proposed, parts availability, delivery, provision of a warranty representative to handle all warranty issues dealing with all components covered by warranty, training offered and a workable equipment transition and implementation plan.

From the list of available items, tool sets were formed which comprised of different items of equipment. Different types of fire fighting apparatus require different tool sets because each type of apparatus serves a distinct function and has a distinct deployment pattern. Below is a chart of the tools sets, quantity and unit prices to completely meet the requirements of the VFRS:

Tool Sets	Qty	*Unit Price
Engine Quint	31	\$9,646.19
Heavy Rescue	5	\$61,578.27
Light Rescue	3	\$36,611.57
Spare BCT Light Electrical	1	\$10,879.29
Ladder	8	\$14,303.17
Spare PowerHawk	1	\$14,303.17

\* some of the unit prices were tendered in USD and as such were converted to CND using an exchange rate of 0.85 CND to 1 USD for this analysis.

The evaluation team was unanimous in selecting both K.G.C. Fire Rescue Incorporated and Levitt-Safety Limited as successful proponents. K.G.C. Fire Rescue received the highest overall score for the subjective issues evaluated within this RFP and will supply all hydraulic as well as light electric extrication tool sets. Levitt-Safety Limited scored well on the subjective issues evaluated within this RFP and will supply nine (9) heavier duty electric extrication tools. These heavier duty electric tool sets are more powerful and more versatile than the lighter electric tool sets and will aid in vehicle extrication, forcible structural entry and egress breaching such as steel doors, rollup doors, and barred windows.

## FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Council had approved the replacement of thirty-eight (38) extrication tools in July 2004 with funds of \$1,028,000.00 to come from the Truck and Equipment Plant Account.

However, a further eleven (11) extrication tool sets and related rescue equipment are required so that all apparatus can be placed directly into service when needed for large scale emergencies and Council permission is sought for this addition. Additional units will comprise of eight (8) ladder tool sets, one (1) spare engine quint tool set, one (1) spare PowerHawk tool set and one (1) spare BCT light electrical tool set. These additional eleven (11) units will increase the number of extrication tool sets to forty-nine (49) units to fully equip all approved active and reserve fire apparatus while maintaining two (2) tool sets as spares.

The capital costs for the tools and equipment required for extrication has decreased, compared to the estimate provided in 2004, due to new technology and new products out on the market. The cost of forty-nine (49) extrication tools is \$856,365.77 which is \$171,634.23 less than the originally approved value. As well, a one time cost of \$15,000.00 will be needed for modifications on existing apparatus to support the extrication tool sets (\$1,500.00 each to retrofit eight (8) rescue trucks and approximately \$500.00 each to retrofit six (6) ladder trucks) and will be covered within the existing budget of the VFRS. Assuming that all of the forty-nine (49) extrication tools were acquired and put into service at the same time, this would result in an annual rental charge, over eight years, from Equipment Services to Vancouver Fire and Rescue Services of \$124,763.98, which is \$17,236.02 lower than the previous annual charge. There would also be an increase in maintenance costs of approximately \$500 per additional unit which equates to \$5,500 annually starting in 2007. The net impact is \$11,736.02 lower than the previous annual cost and will be reflected in VFRS operating budget, subject to the annual budget review in 2007.

## CONCLUSION

Accordingly, we recommend acceptance of the proposal offering the overall best value to the City from K.G.C. Fire Rescue Incorporated for the purchase of forty (40) extrication tools at a total estimated cost of \$688,464.19 (\$9,646.19 each for an engine quint tool set, \$61,578.27 each for a heavy rescue tool set, \$36,611.57 each for a light rescue tool set, \$10,879.29 each for a spare BCT light electrical tool set, \$9,206.95 for tool testing equipment less \$48,380.00 trade-in for existing tools and equipment) and acceptance of the proposal from Levitt-Safety Limited for the purchase of nine (9) extrication tools at a total estimated cost of \$128,728.53 (\$14,303.17 each).

The impact of these recommendations is a net decrease of \$11,736.02 to the VFRS annual operating budget. A one time allocation of \$15,000.00 for modifications to existing apparatus to support the extrication tool sets will be funded from the existing VFRS 2006 operating budget.

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