



REPORT TO COUNCIL

To: **Mayor and Councillors**

Subject: Fire Department Apparatus Replacement

File #: 1100.00

Doc #:

From: Scott Kennedy
Fire Chief

Date: May 17, 2024

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT City Council approve the purchase of a new 100' Platform (ladder) fire apparatus from Safetek Profire Fire Trucks for the replacement of the department's 1996 100' Platform (ladder) fire apparatus in the amount of \$3,457,790.

PURPOSE:

The purpose of the report is to outline the recommendation to replace the 100' Tower (ladder) fire apparatus, with a new apparatus 100' Platform (ladder) truck from Safetek Profire.

POLICY:

FN-12 Purchasing Policy

COMMENTS/ANALYSIS:

Through the City's cooperative purchase program with Canoe (Sourcewell), a competitive proposal was received from Safetek Profire to supply the department with a new 2025 Smeal Gladiator 100' Platform (ladder) fire apparatus to replace the department's existing 1996 Smeal 100' Platform (ladder) fire apparatus. Safetek Profire was selected through the Canoe (Sourcewell) process as they were able to provide us with a Platform apparatus of the same manufacturer as three of our other fire apparatus. Safetek Profire is also a local company (Abbotsford) and this is a benefit to the department for after purchase service and warranty work. LCFRS currently employees Safetek Profire to service the other trucks in our fleet.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS:

The cost of the 100' Platform fire apparatus falls within the budgeted amount of \$3,600,000 and will allow for any potential inflationary costs from the manufacturer of the 2025 Smeal chassis (US supplier). The cost of the truck is invoiced in US dollars and the exchange rate risk will be hedged by holding the purchase price in the City's US dollar BMO bank account.

The high cost of the Smeal Gladiator 100' ladder truck reflects the significant increase in costs of fire apparatus manufacturing, reduced competition in the market, and the low Canadian dollar for US sourced parts & equipment. This has affected all fire apparatus manufacturers. The current quoted cost listed from the manufacturer is a hold over cost from 2023 when the purchase process was started. Today's cost would be a minimum of five (5) percent higher, with a build time extending from 24 to 28 months to 36 to 42 months.

ALTERNATIVES:

Council could not approve the replacement of Tower 1 or defer the purchase to farther into the future. This will lead to higher maintenance costs of the existing 28 year old equipment, as well as removing the apparatus's pump capacity out of the Fire Underwriters Survey (FUS) insurance assessment for the City of Langley due to the age of the apparatus. Replacement parts are hard to source and could mean the apparatus is out of service for extended periods of time.

Respectfully Submitted,



Scott Kennedy
Fire Chief

Attachment(s):

1. Safetek Proposal Package RM Platform 2024.pdf

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CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S COMMENTS:

I support the recommendation.



Darrin Leite, CPA, CA
Deputy Chief Administrative Officer