



**DATE:** June 26, 2018

**CATEGORY:** Consent

**DEPT.:** Public Works

**TITLE:** **Fire Station Alerting System, Project 14-50 – Award Construction Contract**

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Award the construction contract for Fire Station Alerting System, Project 14-50, to Tech Electric, Inc., for \$135,000 and approve a construction contingency of \$21,000.

### **BACKGROUND**

The City of Mountain View's existing Fire Station Alerting (FSA) system is approximately 16 years old. The FSA transponders in the City's fire stations are no longer available from, or supported by, the manufacturer. The system is also unable to support current practices for dispatching fire and medical events.

Based on research and communication with other agencies, staff specified the G2 Phoenix Fire Station Alerting system by US Digital Designs, Inc. ("USDD") as the new FSA system best able to meet operational needs. The USDD system is being adopted by a number of local agencies, including the cities of Palo Alto and San Jose and the County of Santa Clara. Standardizing this system with adjacent agencies would support the City's efforts to coordinate emergency dispatch and response with other local agencies, including sharing a Computer-Aided Dispatch (CAD) system with the cities of Los Altos and Palo Alto.

### **ANALYSIS**

The City advertised for bids for replacement of the FSA system on March 15, 2018 and no bids were received. Staff evaluated the bid package and determined that the high upfront cost of the equipment relative to the installation costs may have kept some contractors from bidding on the project. The bid package was revised to include only the installation of the equipment, with the equipment procured separately by the City.

The City's procurement of the USDD system is through a national cooperative procurement organization ([www.NPPGov.com](http://www.NPPGov.com)) that allows agencies to use existing, publicly solicited procurement contracts for public safety equipment and services.

The Engineer's Estimate for the installation cost was approximately \$85,000, which is less than the \$100,000 threshold requiring a formal bidding process with Council approval. Staff, therefore, advertised for bids through an informal bid process. On May 24, 2018, the City received one bid for \$135,000 from Tech Electric, Inc. of San Jose.

After review of Tech Electric's bid and clarification of several items, staff determined that Tech Electric is a responsive and responsible bidder. While Tech Electric's bid of \$135,000 is 58.8 percent higher than the Engineer's Estimate, the project budget of \$618,000 is sufficient to award the construction contract. After two attempts at bidding the project, staff recommends awarding the contract to Tech Electric. Staff considers the bid to be competitive in the current construction market and does not consider it likely that better bids would be received through readvertising the project.

Based on the recommended contract award, the estimated project cost is as follows:

Design and Project Management	\$ 24,000
Construction:	
Equipment Purchase by City	242,000
FSA Installation Contract	135,000
Construction Contingency (15%):*	
Equipment Purchase Contingency	36,000
FSA Installation Contingency	21,000
City Construction Management and Inspection	33,000
Integration of CAD Link	85,000
Printing and Other Miscellaneous	<u>4,000</u>
Subtotal	\$580,000
City Administration @ 6.5%	<u>38,000</u>
TOTAL PROJECT COST	<u>\$618,000</u>

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\* Because this project involves installation of a mission-critical communications system in multiple existing and operational fire stations, staff recommends a 15 percent contingency for both the installation and equipment.

If the recommended contract is approved, construction is scheduled to begin in August 2018 and is expected to be completed in late fall 2018. Activation of the new system is dependent on final CAD system integration work performed by another vendor.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

Fire Station Alerting System, Project 14-50, is funded with \$165,000 from the CIP Reserve Fund, \$360,000 from the Construction/Conveyance Tax Fund, \$40,000 from the Shoreline Regional Park Community Fund, and \$53,000 from the Equipment Replacement Reserve for a total budget of \$618,000. There are sufficient funds to award the contract.

### **ALTERNATIVES**

1. Reject the bid and direct staff to reduce the project scope and readvertise the project for bids.
2. Reject the bid and direct staff to negotiate the contract with the sole bidder.
3. Provide other direction.

### **PUBLIC NOTICING** – Agenda posting.

Prepared by:

David O. Printy  
Senior Project Manager

Reviewed by:

Lisa Au  
Principal Civil Engineer/Capital Projects

Approved by:

Michael A. Fuller  
Public Works Director

Audrey Seymour Ramberg  
Assistant City Manager

DOP/TS/2/CAM  
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cc: APWD – Solomon, PCE – Au, PCE – Macaraeg, SPM – Printy, AAIL – Goedicke, AAI – Doan, File (14-50), [cmvgis@mountainview.gov](mailto:cmvgis@mountainview.gov)