

TO:	CHAIR AND MEMBERS COMMUNITY AND PROTECTIVE SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING ON AUGUST 12, 2020
FROM:	CHERYL SMITH MANAGING DIRECTOR NEIGHBOURHOOD, CHILDREN AND FIRE SERVICES
SUBJECT:	SINGLE SOURCE PROCUREMENT: VEHICLE EXHAUST CAPTURE SYSTEMS (VECS) IN CITY OF LONDON FIRE STATIONS

RECOMMENDATION

That, on the recommendation of the Managing Director of Neighbourhood, Children and Fire Services the following actions be taken with respect to Vehicle Exhaust Capture Systems (VECS) in City of London Fire Stations:

- a) in accordance with sections 14.4 d. of the Procurement of Good and Services Policy, the Civic Administration BE AUTHORIZED to enter into negotiations with Nederman Holding AB, Sydhamngatan 2, SE-251 06 Helsingborg, Sweden for pricing for a single source contract for three (3) years, with the option to renew for an additional two (2) years, for the provision of Vehicle Exhaust Capture Systems (VECS) I in all City of London Fire Department fire stations;
- b) the approval a) above, BE CONDITIONAL upon The Corporation of the City of London negotiating satisfactory prices, terms, conditions and entering into a contract with Nederman Holding AB to the satisfaction of the City Treasurer to provide Vehicle Exhaust Capture Systems (VECS) in City of London Fire Stations; and,
- c) the Civic Administration BE AUTHORIZED to undertake all the administrative acts that are necessary in connection the authorization set out in parts a) and b) above.;

it is noted that funding for this project is contained in the approved lifecycle renewal budget for Fire Services.

BACKGROUND

The purpose of this report is to seek authorization to enter into negotiations for a single source contract for this service in accordance with the Procurement of Goods and Services Policy, Section 14.4 d.

- d. There is a need for compatibility with goods and/or services previously acquired or the required goods and/or services will be additional to similar goods and/or services being supplied under an existing contract (i.e. contract extension or renewal);*

Vehicle exhaust capture systems (VECS) are used in all of the City of London's apparatus bays. The purpose of the VECS is to allow fire vehicles to be safely started in the apparatus bays without delay. The VECS detect the presence of an operating vehicle and immediately activate to remove engine emissions directly from the exhaust pipe to the outdoors. The VECS used by the City of London are manually attached to the vehicles upon their arrival into the bay and they automatically release themselves as the vehicles exit the bay – again to minimize any exiting delay. While the general exhausting function is common among the various brands of VECS, the components are not interchangeable and the mechanisms for connection, retention, and release from the vehicles are notably unique and can require re-fitting and/or the mounting of corresponding retention components onto the vehicles that they serve.

All fire stations, except for Stations 7, 14, and the District Chief Bay at Station 6 have Nederman exhaust removal systems installed in them. Stations 7, 14, and the District Chief Bay at Station 6 have similar, non-Nederman compatible systems. These handful of systems' connection mechanisms, while still in good working order, are no longer current.

The VECS in the City of London’s portfolio are of varied ages with a number of them currently approaching the end of their normal service life. Funds have been approved in the lifecycle renewal program for fire halls to replace the systems as they reach the end of the lifecycle. Due to the nature of the operation of Fire Services and the requirement that fire vehicles be deployable from any given fire hall, it is necessary that all fire suppression vehicles and VECS be compatible. While it is potentially possible that vehicles could be reconfigured and re-fitted to be compatible with multiple direct exhaust capture systems, it is not logistically or functionally practical from a Fire fleet perspective:

- Exhaust pipes would have to be modified
- Vehicle retention hardware from one system might interfere with that of another
- There would be unique hardware maintenance requirements or intervals for each
- Any changes to the exhaust systems may negate the ULC rating or NFPA rating

Therefore, the Civic Administration is seeking authorization to enter into negotiations for a single source contract for this service in accordance with the Procurement of Goods and Services Policy, Section 14.4 d. with Nederman Holding AB Sydhamngatan 2, SE-251 06 Helsingborg, Sweden.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The supply and installation of a VECS is currently approximately \$100,000 per two-bay station and approximately \$75,000 per single-bay system. Ongoing maintenance is estimated at \$3,500/year and will be accommodated within the existing Fire Services budget. The renewal of the VECS is funded as part of the annual lifecycle renewal budget for fire halls administered by the Facilities Division on behalf of Fire Services. The sources of financing planned for the series of replacements anticipated in the near term will be PP117619, FS117620, and FS117621.

CONCLUSION

A number of the VECS currently in service in the City of London’s fire halls are approaching the end of their service life. The majority of the systems are Nederman brand, and a corresponding majority of the fire vehicles are currently compatible with this system. To date, the existing systems have reliably functioned to the satisfaction of Fire Services. With the upcoming renewal of some of the VECS, it is prudent for the City of London to maintain compatibility across the portfolio of its VECS and corresponding vehicles by using Nederman replacement systems.

PREPARED AND SUBMITTED BY:	CONCURRED BY:
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