

City of Fort Worth, Texas

Mayor and Council Communication

DATE: 03/19/24 M&C FILE NUMBER: M&C 24-0209

LOG NAME: 35AMMUNITION PURCHASE POLICE FIRE MUNICIPAL COURT

SUBJECT

(ALL) Authorize Execution of Non-Exclusive Purchase Agreements with Multiple Vendors to Provide Ammunition in an Annual Aggregate Amount Up to \$1,530,000.00 with Four (4) One-Year Renewal Options for the Police Department, the Fire Department, and the City Marshal Division of the Municipal Court Department

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that City Council authorize execution of non-exclusive purchase agreements with multiple vendors to provide ammunition in an annual aggregate amount up to \$1,530,000.00 with four one-year renewal options for the Police Department, the Fire Department, and the City Marshal Division of the Municipal Court Department.

DISCUSSION:

This Mayor and Council Communication (M&C) requests authorization to execute non-exclusive purchase agreements with Clyde Armory, Inc.; CMC Government Supply; Dana Safety Supply; GT Distributors, Inc.; Kiesler Police Supply, Inc.; Precision Delta Corporation; Proforce Marketing Inc.; and Z Bar Supply Company for the provision of ammunition for the Police Department, the Fire Department, and Municipal Court, for an annual aggregate amount up to \$1,530,000.00, with four (4) one-year renewal options. The contracts will be used to purchase ammunition for Police Department recruits and officers, the City Marshal Division of the Municipal Court Department, and the Fire Department Arson/Bomb Squad.

BACKGROUND: Supply chain issues with procuring ammunition began in 2021 with civil unrest and Covid pandemic fear throughout the United States and continue today. Worldwide events also affect the supply and demand of ammunition. Supply chain issues resulting from the closure of some ammunition production facilities and lack of component items used in the manufacturing led to increased wait times for the delivery of ammunition. Supply and demand for ammunition is shared by the military, law enforcement, and civilian customers.

The Police Department experienced challenges with the ammunition supply chain recently: an order was placed in February 2022, but the ammunition was not delivered until October 2023, 20 months or two fiscal years after the order was placed.

Police officers, Fire arson investigators, and City Marshals are all "peace officers," required to be licensed by Texas Commission on Law Enforcement ("TCOLE"). TCOLE requires all sworn peace officers to qualify annually with their duty weapon to maintain their licenses. The City will not be in compliance with TCOLE if officers are unable to qualify due to lack of ammunition for training and practice.

With approval of this M&C, the City will be able to purchase ammunition from multiple vendors and to be replenish inventory in a timely manner. The City would purchase ammunition several times annually as opposed to the historical once-a-year purchase. Vendors will be able to more efficiently process orders in smaller increments rather than struggling to locate sufficient supply to fill one large order. Smaller orders will allow the City to be more fiscally responsible by purchasing, receiving, and paying for ammunition in the same fiscal year.

Multiple sources for obtaining ammunition will allow the City the flexibility to purchase as supplies become available with the fluctuations of supply and demand, thereby alleviating recurring procurement issues. The City will also be able to better plan for availability of practice ammunition for officers and new recruits.

The Police Department conducts about three new recruit classes a year. Having ammunition for that training is imperative. Training is paramount for public safety; the more training officers have, the more effective officers will be. Weapons accuracy is contingent upon practice.

As Fort Worth continues to grow, there is an increased need for police presence in situations that depend on well-trained officers. The City is accountable to its citizens for their health, welfare, and safety. Protecting the citizens of For Worth requires law enforcement personnel who are fully trained and ready to respond in emergency situations. Having regular, consistent opportunities for purchasing ammunition for law enforcement officers and recruits creates a safer environment for Fort Worth citizens and limits potential liabilities.

The maximum annual aggregate amount allowed under the agreements will be \$1,530,000.00, however the actual amount used will be based on department needs and available budget. The anticipated annual department need for these agreements is below:

DEPARTMENT	ANNUAL AMOUNT
Police	\$1,500,000.00

Fire	\$ 15,000.00
Municipal Court	\$ 15,000.00
TOTAL	\$1,530,000.00

ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGE ORDER: An administrative change order or increase may be made by the City Manager up to the amount allowed by relevant law and the Fort Worth City Code and does not require specific City Council approval as long as sufficient funds have been appropriated.

DVIN: The Police Department was approved for a Chapter 252 Exemption by the City Attorney's Office. Therefore, the business equity goal requirement is not applicable.

AGREEMENT TERM: Upon City Council's approval, the initial term of the agreements will become effective once executed by the Assistant City Manager and will expire March 31, 2025, with options to renew.

RENEWAL OPTIONS: The agreements may be renewed for up to four (4) one-year renewal terms, at the City's option. This action does not require specific City Council approval provided that the City Council has appropriated sufficient funds to satisfy the City's obligations during the renewal period.

FISCAL INFORMATION / CERTIFICATION:

The Director of Finance certifies funds are available in the current operating and capital budgets, as previously appropriated, in the General Fund for the Police and Fire Departments and Special Revenue MC Fund for the Court Security Funds project to support the approval of the above recommendation and execution of the agreements. Prior to an expenditure being incurred, the Police, Fire and Municipal Court Departments have the responsibility to validate the availability of funds.

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