



# **Agenda Report**

**MEETING DATE:** Tuesday, February 8, 2022

**TO:** City Council

**FROM:** FIRE CHIEF LOPEZ  
ROSA MEYER, Administrative Analyst

**SUBJECT:** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF THIRTY (30) SELF CONTAINED BREATHING APPARATUS (SCBA) PAKS, AND EQUIPMENT, FROM ALL STAR FIRE EQUIPMENT CO., A CORPORATION, FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$298,380.32; AND ONE (1) AIR COMPRESSOR FROM BAUER COMPRESSORS, INC., A CORPORATION, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$68,021.92, PLUS \$13,597.76 FOR CONTINGENCIES; AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER PRO TEMPORE TO ISSUE THE PURCHASE ORDER; AND AUTHORIZING BUDGET APPROPRIATION OF AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$380,000 FROM THE MEASURE Y FUND

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## **STATEMENT OF ISSUES:**

Fire Department personnel utilizes self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) when responding to fire incidents. The current self-contained breathing equipment is over 30 years old, has exceeded its lifetime, and is not compatible with new industry standards. This is critical safety equipment for our firefighters and replacement of this outdated equipment is necessary.

## **RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

It is recommended that the City Council take the following actions:

- 1) Approve Resolution authorizing the purchase of 30 self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) paks and equipment from Allstar Fire Equipment Co, a corporation, in an amount not to exceed \$298,380.32; one air compressor from Bauer Compressors, Inc., a corporation, in an amount not to exceed \$68,021.92 for the Watsonville Fire Department, plus \$13,597.76 for contingencies; and
- 2) Authorize the City Manager Pro Tempore to issue purchase order; and
- 3) Authorize budget appropriation in an amount not to exceed \$380,000 from Measure Y Funds for the SCBA Replacement Project.

## **DISCUSSION:**

The SCBA is a device worn to provide breathable air in an atmosphere that is dangerous to the life or health of our firefighters. This *self-contained device* means that the air supply is not dependent on a remote supply of breathing gas and it allows for independent movement when responding to fire incidents.

Each of the Department's fire units is equipped with an individual SCBA for each firefighter on the unit. The proposed new SCBAs will ensure compliance with current safety regulations and ensure standard configuration within Watsonville Fire and with other County agencies. The City will purchase 30 new SCBAs. Each truck is also equipped with a number of individual air cylinders that are used with the SCBA device. These individual cylinders provide a sustained air supply while using the SCBAs. The current air cylinders are over 15 years old and no longer compliant with new SCBAs that are now being purchased. The City will purchase 74 refillable cylinders of 5.5 psi capacity to be used with the new SCBAs.

In addition to the SCBA's, the Department will be purchasing a new compressor to refill the air cylinders. The current compressor used for filling SCBA cylinders was manufactured in 1998 and has an expected lifespan of 30 years. This compressor is starting to fail and it is difficult to service given the lack of available parts and a new one is needed. The estimated cost of the new compressor is \$68,021.92

In accordance with the City's purchasing policy, quotes were requested from Allstar and Municipal Emergency Services (MES) for the SCBA paks and cylinders. They are the only two authorized vendors for Scott Air-paks. Allstar is the only vendor that submitted a complete quote for the requested items. MES submitted an incomplete quote for the requested items. Bauer Compressors, Inc., is a sole source vendor for the requested air compressor pursuant to 3-5.210(c) of the Watsonville Municipal Code as equipment and supplies are unique, available only from one (1) source, or sought to match existing equipment or supplies already in use.

The Fire Department is seeking a \$380,000 appropriation from Measure Y funds to purchase:  
30 SCBA Packs and related parts for a total of \$216,726.87

74 Cylinders for a total of \$81,653.45

1 Compressor with a cost of \$68,021.92

In addition, \$13,597.76 to make any necessary building modifications to fit the new, larger, air compressor and adjustments to personal equipment.

#### **STRATEGIC PLAN:**

This appropriation request is consistent with the following Strategic Plan goal of:  
6-Public Safety

#### **FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

The \$380,000 appropriation will be funded through Measure Y fire reserve funds. At the end of Fiscal Year 2020-21 the Fire Department had Measure Y reserves in excess of the 10% minimum requirement. Protective equipment for Firefighters is an authorized use of Measure Y funds.

#### **ATTACHMENTS AND/OR REFERENCES (If any):**

- 1) Quote from Allstar Fire Equipment
- 2) Quote from Bauer Compressors