

**ROSS VALLEY FIRE DEPARTMENT
STAFF REPORT**

For the meeting of January 9, 2019

To: Board of Directors

From: Jason Weber, Fire Chief

Subject: Fire Apparatus Replacement

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Board authorizes the Fire Chief to enter into a lease purchase agreement for the purchase of two (2) new Pierce Manufacturing, Enforcer 1500 GMP All-Steer Type 1 Fire Engines utilizing a 50% down and 50% 5-year lease purchase.

BACKGROUND:

The Ross Valley Fire Department currently maintains a fire apparatus fleet of eight fire engines, seven "Type 1" engines, and one "Type 3" engine. The Type 1 engines are designed for structural firefighting, and the Type 3 engine is specifically designed for wildland firefighting. The Type 1 engines carry a full complement of wildland firefighting equipment but are limited to paved roadways, whereas the Type 3 engine has limited structural firefighting capabilities. One of the Type 1 engines is owned and maintained by the State of California and operated by Ross Valley Fire Department for local and statewide response.

In 2018 the Board approved an updated vehicle replacement schedule through 2029. The schedule calls for the replacement of Type 1 engines after 20 years of service, 15 years as a first run apparatus and five years in reserve status. First run engines are the fire engines used every day, one at each of the three fire stations.

Beginning in 1995, with the purchase of the current Engine 19, the Department has been purchasing Type 1 fire engines with "All-Steer" capability. All-Steer provides coordinated steering of all four wheels, not just the front wheels as with normal vehicles. The All-Steer capability provides a significantly increased maneuverability on the towns' narrow roadways. Currently, Pierce Manufacturing is the only fire apparatus manufacturer that provides the All-Steer capability.

Prior engine purchases have utilized a lease purchase option. With the purchase of the new apparatus, the department will pay 50% cash and finance the remaining amount.

DISCUSSION:

For the past several months staff has been working with Golden State Fire Apparatus and Pierce Manufacturing in the development of specifications for a new Type 1 fire engine. Staff has worked diligently to design a fire engine that meets our current and future needs. Staff has also worked very hard to reduce the overall cost of the new fire engine.

AGENDA ITEM # 6
Date 1/9/19

It would be standard for the Department to develop specifications and request proposals through the formal bid process; however, Ross Valley Fire Department utilizes the All-Steer system. The Oshkosh Corporation holds the patent on the All-Steer system. Pierce Manufacturing is a subsidiary of Oshkosh. Currently, Pierce Manufacturing is the only fire apparatus manufacturer that provides the All-Steer capability.

The current design is consistent with our four current first run fire engines, with only minor variations.

In the last several years, as the Board is aware, the purchase of fire engines and other vehicles has fallen behind the replacement timeline originally established in 2013. The total purchase price for the two (2) new Pierce Manufacturing, Enforcer 1500 GMP All-Steer Type 1 Fire Engines is \$1,417,068, which takes into consideration a 100% prepayment discount of \$49,894 and a discount \$70,000 for joining a purchasing consortium (HGAC).

Recommendations: Staff is recommending that the Board approve the purchase of two (2) new Pierce Manufacturing, Enforcer 1500 GMP All-Steer Type 1 Fire Engines.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The total purchase price for the two (2) new Pierce Manufacturing, Enforcer 1500 GMP All-Steer Type 1 Fire Engines is \$1,417,068, which takes into consideration a 100% prepayment discount of \$49,894 and a discount \$70,000 for joining a purchasing consortium (HGAC).

Authorize fire chief to enter into a purchase agreement 50% cash, 50% financing (which will be negotiated at the best available interest rate) as outlined in the Vehicle Replacement Schedule.