



MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor and City Council

From: Kevin Richardson, Fire Department

Date: July 23, 2024

Reference: Consider approval to purchase retrofitting technology for the Fire and Police Department Mobile Command Vehicle from Comprehensive Communication Service through Buyboard contract #714-23, in the amount of \$63,392.59 as approved for in the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds; and authorizing the City Manager to sign any necessary documents.

2040: Sustainable Government

Introduction:

This agenda item is presented by Coppell response agencies (Fire, Police, and Emergency Management), who are seeking funds to retrofit the existing Mobile Command Vehicle (MCV) with new technology.

Background:

The MCV was purchased in 2019 from LDV Custom Specialty Vehicles and had primarily served as a police department asset. Currently, the MCV is underutilized, serving primarily as a command post for large-scale public events (e.g., Celebrate Coppell and St. Ann's). However, the involved departments aim to better utilize this asset. Emergency Management was tasked with forming a working group consisting of members from Police, Fire, and Enterprise Solutions. This group developed a list of required capabilities and the necessary equipment to support those capabilities during an incident.

The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) allocated funds would be used to purchase and install new technological infrastructure, thereby increasing command and control capabilities for various scenarios. Once upgraded, the vehicle could be deployed for special events, negotiator callouts, search and rescue operations, mass casualty incidents, recruiting events, or any other large-scale incident requiring a command post. The MCV project was approved for \$100,000 from ARPA funds during a City Council working group session on January 9, 2024.

Benefit to the Community:

The ability to maintain operational readiness and control for large scale incidents regarding public safety.

Legal Review:

The Procurement Division has reviewed the documents and determined that this is an appropriate method of contracting with the vendor.

Fiscal Impact:

The total costs of upgrading the technology within the MCV is \$63,392.52. The use of ARPA funds was approved by Council on January 9, 2024.

Recommendation:

The Fire Department recommends purchasing this technology upgrade via Buyboard contract # 714-23.