



## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Mayor and City Council

**From:** Fire Chief Kevin Richardson

**Date:** December 13, 2022

**Reference:** Consider approval authorizing the purchase of replacement radios for the Fire Department through a cooperative program with Houston Galveston Area Council (HGAC) in the amount of \$79,864.26 as budgeted; and authorizing the City Manager to sign any necessary documents.

**2040:** Sustainable Government

---

### Introduction:

The Fire Department is seeking the purchase of replacement radios as part of a tiered replacement of front-line radios to reduce the budgetary impact and logistical challenges of wholesale replacement of the affected radio fleet. The ability to maintain operational readiness and communication for all Fire and Emergency Medical Service incidents continues to be a priority.

The use of land-mobile radios remains a mission critical component of public safety communications. The demands for these radios exceed those of normal consumer electronics due to the operating environment of firefighters. Some components of the portable radios are required to be submersible in water, safely operated in explosive environments, and capable of continued operation after direct exposure to temperatures reaching five-hundred degrees. Some of the radios currently in use are approaching a decade of front-line service and are quickly approaching their manufacturer support "end of life" date.

### Background:

The Coppel Fire Department currently maintains twenty (20) mobile and fifty-two (52) portable radios capable of "front-line" service. Manufacturer support "end of life" for the APX-6000 series was announced more than two years ago. The "end of life" support date is scheduled for December 31, 2023, after which firmware updates, new feature updates, and factory repair services will no longer be available. The CFD has a tiered replacement schedule and re-assigns radios to non-emergency functions if parts and functionality remain intact.

**Benefit to the Community:**

The ability to maintain operational readiness and communication for all Fire and Emergency Medical Service incidents.

**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 combined cost of two (2) mobile and ten (10) portable radios costs \$79,864.26. The funds have been budgeted in Emergency Management – Communications Equipment.

**Recommendation:**

The Fire Department recommends purchasing Motorola mobile and portable radios via HGAC contract #RA05-18.