



## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Mayor and City Council

**From:** Kevin Richardson, Fire Department

**Date:** August 7, 2018

**Re:** Purchase of Outdoor Warning Sirens

**2030:** Sustainable City Government

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### Introduction:

Early Outdoor Warning Sirens (EOWS) remain an integral component of our overall emergency warning and public alerting strategy. The City of Coppell currently employs nineteen EOWS as a part of the warning capability to alert citizens of threatening weather and other conditions. The current siren coverage fails to meet a level necessary to ensure that it is audible above background noise levels for persons outdoors in various locations throughout the city. As a result, budgetary funding has been approved to implement two outdoor warning sirens during this budget year.

### Analysis:

Coverage / Sound Level Requirements - Effective and comprehensive emergency notification systems demand multiple methods or communication “layers” for issuing warnings and alerts. EOWS clearly fulfill a vital role by ensuring the ability to reach people who are not within range of radio and television broadcast alerts, or who either do not have mobile phones or lack access to cellular service. The goal coverage for EOWS is an estimated 15 dBA above the average ambient sound level. The existing siren coverage does not provide adequate elevation above ambient outdoor background noise in several identified areas. It will require a minimum of three additional sirens, in addition to relocating one siren, to meet the recommended warning levels necessary to overcome ambient noise floors. After installation of all the recommended equipment, it will be necessary to reassess the siren efficacy. These recommendations are based on an Early Outdoor Warning System Sound Study Report prepared for the Coppell Fire Department by Behrens and Associates, Inc. dated March 1, 2018.

This request is to purchase (1) outdoor warning siren, relocate one (1) siren and remount (1) siren. The new siren will be installed to enhance coverage along the Riverside corridor. The relocation will move a siren from Pinkerton Elementary to Royal Lane. The remount will resolve a broken siren mount at MacArthur and Samuel. Based on the response to BID #Q-0818-02, the fiscal impact of this agenda item is \$72,462.08 total (\$36,430.08 for the new siren and \$18,016.00 each for remount/relocation). Funds in the amount of \$70,000, were approved in the 2017-2018 Annual Budget in Emergency Management account 01-04-10-5040 for the purchase of outdoor warning sirens. The remaining balance will be transferred from existing Emergency Management Division funds.

**Legal Review:**

Agenda item did not require legal review.

**Fiscal Impact:**

**Recommendation:**

The fire department recommends the acceptance of BID #Q-0818-02 from Joe Goddard Enterprises LLC for the purchase and installation of one additional outdoor warning siren and the relocation/remount of two existing outdoor warning sirens.