

Bus Purchase - Agreement

Recommendation:

That an agreement with New Flyer Industries Canada ULC for the purchase of four, 40 foot buses in an amount not to exceed \$1.8 million including GST, be approved and that the agreement be in a form and content acceptable to the City Manager.

Report Summary

As per the City Administration Bylaw 12005, sole source agreements over \$500,000 must be approved by the appropriate Committee of Council.

Report

Additional buses are required to accommodate increasing passenger demand, resulting from growth in the city. In 2011 Edmonton Transit experienced ridership growth of three million passengers. With ongoing population and employment growth in the city, this trend is expected to continue.

In Capital Budget Program 09-66-1681; Bus Fleet Growth, funds are available in 2011, as a result of the purchase price for 20 articulated buses being less than anticipated.

New Flyer Industries is a vendor who has a long history of supplying transit buses to the City of Edmonton. New Flyer is one of North America's leading manufacturers of heavy-duty buses. The City currently owns over 900 New Flyer buses which are utilized to provide

reliable transit service to the citizens of Edmonton.

The City of Edmonton had a ten-year purchase contract with New Flyer to supply 40 foot transit buses. The contract expired in early 2011. A new long-term bus contract will be tendered for bus purchases in early 2012.

New Flyer is very familiar with Edmonton Transit bus specifications and is able to provide buses which have similar features as buses previously purchased in 2009. Purchasing these buses will have minimum impact in operating and maintaining the units for the following reasons:

- No additional training will be required to put the buses into service as bus operators and mechanics are very familiar with the buses.
- With the previous purchase of New Flyer vehicles, there are no spare parts included in the unit price of the bus.
- New Flyer has offered a discounted price to purchase the buses.

Policy

This report is in compliance with Administration Bylaw 12005.

Corporate Outcomes

This project supports the following Strategic Goals:

- The Way We Move - Shift Edmonton's Transportation Mode
- Citizens use public transit and active modes
- The transportation system is integrated, safe and gives citizens many choices for their mode of movement
- The Way We Grow - Transform Edmonton's Urban Form

- Edmonton has sustainable infrastructure that fosters and supports civic and community needs

Justification of Recommendation

New Flyer Industries has been Edmonton Transit's main supplier of buses, with a proven service record. In the absence of a long-term agreement and given the limited number of buses being purchased, New Flyer represents the best option from an operational and maintenance perspective.