



## AGENDA MEMORANDUM

Action Item for the City Council Meeting May 18, 2021

**DATE:** May 18, 2021

**TO:** Peter Zaroni, City Manager

**FROM:** Robert Rocha, Fire Chief  
[RRocha@cctexas.com](mailto:RRocha@cctexas.com)  
(361) 826-1941

Josh Chronley, Interim Assistant Director of Contracts and Procurement  
[JoshC2@cctexas.com](mailto:JoshC2@cctexas.com)  
(361) 826-3169

### MX908-C Handheld Chemical Identification System

#### **CAPTION:**

Motion authorizing the purchase of a MX908-C Handheld Chemical Identification Device and a five-month service agreement for staff training in an amount of \$79,088.25 with FarrWest Environmental Supply Inc. of Schertz, Texas via HGACBuy Cooperative for the Corpus Christi Fire Department effective upon issuance of a notice to proceed with FY 2021 funding through the Fire Grants Fund.

#### **SUMMARY:**

The Corpus Christi Fire Department (CCFD) is requesting authorization on a five-month service agreement to purchase chemical identification equipment and training in an amount of \$79,088.25. The five-month agreement includes staff training to use the device. The equipment and training will benefit CCFD HazMat response team as well as other local and regional teams such as SWAT, tactical EMS, and the bomb squad. It will increase the safety of emergency responders and especially the community.

#### **BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS:**

CCFD is requesting to purchase one MX908 Handheld device and training on the device. The City currently does not have any MX908 devices. The MX908 is a chemical identification system that uses high-pressure mass spectrometry. Responders will use the device to identify hazardous unknowns involving chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and high-yield explosives (CBRNE) even in trace amounts, as well as deadly analogues of drugs that are emerging nationwide such as Fentanyl. After the equipment is received, FarrWest will conduct a three-day onsite training for 15 to 20 students.

The equipment and training are being purchased through a 2020 State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Activities (LETPA) grant. The City has not had any agreement or contract in the past related to the MX908.

**PROCUREMENT DETAIL:**

CCFD worked with Contracts and Procurement to issue a contract through the HGACBuy Cooperative. Contracts awarded through the HGACBuy Cooperative have been competitively procured in compliance with Texas local and state procurement requirements.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

The alternative is not to purchase the equipment and training, but responders will not have the necessary equipment to identify unknown chemicals involving CBRNE hazards as well as drugs at trace levels.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

The purchase of the MX908-C Handheld Chemical Identification and training is a five-month service agreement with FarrWest Environmental Supply Inc. of Schertz, TX. The total cost of the five-month agreement is \$79,088.25. The fiscal impact for CCFD in FY 2021 for this service agreement is \$79,088.25 and will be funded through the Fire Grants Fund.

**FUNDING DETAIL:**

|                        |             |                                |
|------------------------|-------------|--------------------------------|
| Fund:                  | 1062        | Fire Grants                    |
| Organization/Activity: | 821265F     | HSGP Regional HazMat Equipment |
| Mission Element:       | 093         | Response to Emergency Calls    |
| Project # (CIP Only):  | N/A         |                                |
| Account:               | 520090      | Minor Tools & Equipment        |
| Amount:                | \$79,088.25 |                                |

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends approval of this motion authorizing the purchase of a five-month service agreement with FarrWest Environmental Supply Inc. for an MX908-C Handheld Chemical Identification System and training for usage of the device for the City of Corpus Christi Fire Department HazMat Response.

**LIST OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:**

Price Sheet  
Service Agreement