



REQUEST FOR CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM

Agenda Date Requested: <u>August 12th, 2024</u>
Requested By: <u>Fire Chief Chris Pettis</u>
Department: <u>Fire Suppression Division</u>
<input checked="" type="radio"/> Report <input type="radio"/> Resolution <input type="radio"/> Ordinance

Appropriation	
Source of Funds:	<u>FCPEMSD</u>
Account Number:	<u>034-50501-522-2007</u>
Amount Budgeted:	<u>\$108,000</u>
Amount Requested:	<u>\$42,176.00</u>
Budgeted Item:	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No

Exhibits: On-Duty Health Proposal, Summary of Scores, Access Report, and Agreement.

SUMMARY & RECOMMENDATION

At the 2023 Budget Retreat, staff gave a presentation about cancer initiatives, and one of those initiatives was annual comprehensive physical to all firefighters. Funds were approved in the Fire Control Prevention Emergency Medical Services District FY24 budget.

There is a growing body of research and analysis that shows the contributions that job-related exposures have in chronic illnesses, such as cancer. The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) recently undertook two large studies focused on firefighter cancer and concluded that compared with the general population in the United States, firefighters face a 9% higher risk of a cancer diagnoses and a 14% higher risk of a cancer related death. Many common cancer rates found in firefighters are 1.5 to 2.0 times more prominent, and include mesothelioma, multiple myeloma, non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, leukemia, esophageal, brain, prostate, colon, and kidney cancers. Firefighter occupational cancer is the leading cause of line-of-duty deaths in the fire service. Data from the International Association of Fire Fighters shows that cancer is the cause of 66% of firefighter line-of-duty deaths from 2002 to 2019. The types of cancer most occurring were respiratory (lung, mesothelioma) gastrointestinal (esophageal) and kidney. Several best practices have been identified for departments to take advantage of, which could reduce occupational cancer exposures. Many of these best practices have been implemented by the department including not wearing turnout gear in the living areas of the stations, gross decontamination at fire responses, documentation of all fire or chemical exposures in personnel reports on incident reports, wipes or soap and water cleaning of all apparatus seats, self-contained breathing apparatus, and cabs of trucks after calls. The department is working on an initiative to replace current firefighting hoods with particulate blocking next generation hoods. Early detection is key to survival with a cancer diagnosis, so the next step would be to provide annual comprehensive physicals to all firefighters.

Request for Proposal (RFP) #24504-Fire Department Annual Physicals was opened and read on March 7, 2024. Solicitation requests were advertised in the Bay Area Observer on February 15, 2024, and February 22, 2024, posted on Public Purchase and the city's website. A total of 10 vendors downloaded the RFP, with three (3) responding.

An evaluation committee consisting of the Assistant Fire Chief, Assistant Chief of EMS, and Chief of Police evaluated the proposals on the below criteria:

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|--------------------------------------|-----------|
| 1. Experience and Qualifications | 40 Points |
| 2. Program Capabilities and approach | 30 Points |
| 3. Cost | 20 Points |
| 4. References | 10 Points |

Based on the criteria above the committee evaluated all proposals submitted, and On-Duty Health received the highest total score. The recommendation is to execute a three-year term agreement, with two additional one-year renewal options, with On-Duty Health to perform firefighter physicals for fire department personnel.

The attached proposal from On-Duty Health provides multiple packages, and after review, the fire department recommends the silver package which is their most popular package. The Silver Package is one of their most popular options because it provides a comprehensive set of health and fitness assessments at a reasonable price, making it the go-to choice for many fire departments that are committed to keeping their members healthy and fit. This package includes an extensive range of health assessments such as urinalysis, complete blood count, metabolic panel, lipid panel, A1C, thyroid stimulating hormone, and prostate-specific antigen for males over 40. Additionally, it offers advanced screenings like the FIT Fecal Occult Screening Kit for members over 40 and on-site phlebotomy.

The package doesn't stop there though, it also features detailed physical and cardiopulmonary evaluations, including a comprehensive physical examination with advanced vision testing, audiometry testing, skin cancer assessment, and behavioral health assessment. It includes cardiopulmonary exercise testing (CPET), TRUE VO2 Max testing, metabolic analysis, muscular endurance, strength, and flexibility evaluations, along with cardiology follow-up for irregular results. One of the significant advantages of the Silver Package is the inclusion of ultrasound-enhanced cancer screening, which covers imaging of the heart, aorta, carotid arteries, thyroid, liver, pancreas, gall bladder, spleen, kidneys, bladder, pelvic (for women), testicular, and prostate (for men). This thorough cancer screening provides radiology follow-up interpretation for any irregular results.

The Silver Package, priced at \$649 per member for groups of 46-100 people, offers a comprehensive health monitoring solution for the personnel of La Porte Fire Department. Designed to fulfill compliance requirements and promote wellness, the Silver Package will help keep our personnel informed about their health, leading to improved performance and better preparedness.

STRATEGIC PLAN STRATEGY AND GOAL

Organizational Excellence: The City of La Porte will operate in a transparent, efficient, accountable, and responsive manner by preparing the organization and the staff for the future, focusing on core services, attracting and retaining the best employees and wise stewardship of financial resources.

ACTION REQUIRED BY CITY COUNCIL

Authorize the City Manager to execute a three-year term agreement, for unit pricing of \$649.00 per firefighter for an initial expenditure of \$42,176.00, and authorize an expenditure up to the budgeted amount in year two and three of the agreement, with On-Duty Health to perform firefighter physicals for fire department personnel.

Approved for the City Council meeting agenda

Corby D. Alexander, City Manager

Date