



**CITY OF PLANO  
COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM**

<b>CITY SECRETARY'S USE ONLY</b>				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consent <input type="checkbox"/> Regular <input type="checkbox"/> Statutory				
Council Meeting Date:		September 26, 2011		
Department:		Purchasing		
Department Head		Diane Palmer-Boeck		
Agenda Coordinator (include phone #): <b>Glenna Hayes x 7539</b>				
<b>CAPTION</b>				
Approval of the purchase of Ruggedized Tablet Computers for the Fire Department in the amount of \$123,698 from WAV, Inc. through an existing contract/agreement with The Cooperative Purchasing Network (TCPN) and authorizing the City Manager to execute all necessary documents. (TCPN Contract Number R5065)				
<b>FINANCIAL SUMMARY</b>				
<input type="checkbox"/> NOT APPLICABLE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OPERATING EXPENSE <input type="checkbox"/> REVENUE <input type="checkbox"/> CIP				
FISCAL YEAR:	<b>2010-2011</b>	<b>Prior Year (CIP Only)</b>	<b>Current Year</b>	<b>Future Years</b>
				<b>TOTALS</b>
Budget		0	145,838	0
Encumbered/Expended Amount		0	0	0
This Item		0	-123,698	0
BALANCE		0	22,140	0
<b>FUND(s):    FIRE DEPARTMENT EQUIPMENT REPLACEMENT FUND</b>				
<p><b>COMMENTS:</b> Funds for the replacement of the patient care reporting tablet computers are included in the 2010-11 Fire ERF Budget. The balance of funds will remain in the Fire Equipment Replacement Fund for the replacement of other equipment in future years.</p> <p><b>STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL:</b> The periodic replacement of patient reporting computer equipment relates to the City's Goals of Safe Large City and Financially Strong City with Service Excellence.</p>				
<b>SUMMARY OF ITEM</b>				
<p>Staff recommends approval of the purchase of Ruggedized Tablet Computers for the Fire Department from WAV, Inc. in the amount of \$123,698 conditioned upon timely execution of any necessary contract documents. The City is authorized to purchase from the cooperative contract list pursuant to Section 271 Subchapter F of the Local Government Code, and by doing so satisfies any State Law requiring Local governments to seek competitive sealed bids for items. (TCPN Contract Number R5065, City of Plano Contract Number 2011-282-1)</p>				
List of Supporting Documents:			Other Departments, Boards, Commissions or Agencies	
Dept Memo				



## **MEMORANDUM**

***From the Office of the Fire Chief***

**Date:** September 7, 2011  
**To:** Glenna Hayes, C.P.M. - Contracts Specialist - Purchasing  
**From:** Hugo Esparza, Fire Chief   
**Subject:** Recommendation for the Purchase of DRS Technologies Armor X10gxTablet Computers

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The Fire Department requests the replacement of its current electronic patient care reporting (ePCR) tablet computers on its ambulances, trucks, and engines. An ePCR tablet is a mobile computer used by fire personnel to collect and document patient care information while on-scene and en route to a medical facility. Additionally, the data collected using the ePCR tablets is used to conduct queries, produce reports for quality assurance purposes, and provide information to the City's EMS billing contractor for transport reimbursement.

The Fire Department's current ePCR tablet computers are over five years old, nearing the end of their service life, and will no longer be supported by the manufacturer, DRS Technologies (DRS). The Fire Department recommends the City purchase replacement computers manufactured by the same hardware vendor (DRS Technologies). DRS computers are compatible with the Department's existing vehicle computer docking stations (a device used to secure the computer inside fire apparatus and recharge the computer's batteries) and have a similar hardware design. Purchasing DRS computers will allow the City to conserve hardware costs, minimize apparatus down time, and avoid unnecessary training time and expense.

If the Department's existing tablet computers are not replaced, the Department will continue with their use until which time the manufacturer will no longer support their repair. This will result in dissatisfaction with the electronic patient reporting process due to the increased failure rate of aging, near obsolete equipment (i.e., computer crashes, information loss, and data re-entry, etc.).

Therefore, the Fire Department requests and recommends the purchase of 30 new DRS Technologies Armor X10gx Tablet computers - one for each of the Department's ambulances, trucks, engines, and battalion vehicles, as well as four new vehicle docking stations to replace existing docks that are not compatible with the new tablet computers. The Fire Department requests replacement of this capital equipment by use of a budget supplement that was approved for the 2010/2011 budget year.

**Cost and Benefits:**

The following cost and benefits are associated with this purchase:

Item	Quantity	Unit Price	Extended Price	Budget Code
Armor X10GX Tablet (Computer)	30 EA	3,700.00	111,000.00	903-6252
Extended Warranty ( yrs. 4 & 5 )	30 EA	339.45	10,183.50	903-6252
Cradle Support	4 EA	334.80	1,339.20	903-6252
Power Cable	4 EA	65.10	260.40	903-6252
Vehicle Power Cable Kit	4 EA	116.25	465.00	903-6252
Shipping	0 EA	.000	450.00	903-6295
<b>Total Expenditure</b>			<b>123,698.10</b>	

1. The continued use of DRS tablet computers will allow the Department to avoid the purchase of 30 new vehicle docking stations that would be required if another manufacturer's hardware was used. As an example, there is a savings of approximately \$18,000 when compared with migrating to Panasonic Toughbook computers and that manufacturer's requisite docking station solution.
2. The continued use of DRS tablet computers will allow the Department to avoid the lengthy out-of-service time that would be necessary to replace the vehicle docking station hardware in all fire apparatus. Migrating to another manufacturer's hardware would require fire apparatus to go out of service for approximately three hours while the City's Fleet Services Department replaces the docking hardware. This would reduce the number of fire apparatus available for emergency response, resulting in decreased service levels.
3. The continued use of DRS tablet computers will allow the Department to avoid the time and cost associated with training fire personnel in the use of another manufacturer's hardware platform since the Department's current computers are very similar to the DRS tablet computers.

**Recommendations:**

- The Fire Department recommends the replacement of its tablet computers that are nearing the end of their service life and will no longer be supported by the manufacturer.
- The Fire Department recommends the purchase of DRS tablet computers for the monetary and apparatus downtime savings associated with not having to purchase and replace the existing vehicle docking stations. Additionally, because the DRS tablet is similar in design to the Department's current tablet, this purchase will avoid the need of having to train the entire Fire Department workforce on a new computer platform.
- The Fire Department recommends the purchase of DRS Technologies tablet computers from WAV Inc. The City is authorized to purchase from WAV Inc. through The Cooperative Purchasing Network (TCPN) contract #R5065, pursuant to Section 271, Subchapter F, of the Local Government Code, and by doing so satisfies any State Law requiring local governments to seek competitive bids for items.