



THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF COURTENAY

STAFF REPORT

To: Council

File No.: 7320-20 Fire

From: City Manager (CAO)

Date: January 26 2023

Subject: Expedited Purchase Timeline Bullex Digital Fire Training Panels

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this report is to request approval from Council to immediately purchase six Bullex Digital Fire Training Panels which are used to deliver live fire training to our firefighters and recruits in an environmentally friendly manner.

CAO RECOMMENDATIONS:

THAT Council approve the immediate purchase of six Bullex Digital Fire Training Panels in the amount of \$57,094.29.

Respectfully submitted,

Geoff Garbutt, M.PI., MCIP, RPP
City Manager (CAO)

BACKGROUND:

The Courtenay Fire Department incorporates Bullex Digital Fire Training Panels in our live fire training program delivered at the W.A. Lane MacDonald Fire Training Centre. These panels are an effective way to minimize the environmental impact that live fire training would have on our community, as the alternative to using these panels would be to burn Class A materials such as wood pallets. Originally purchased in 2015, these panels have been heavily used over the past 7 years and their replacement is included in the 2023 – 2027 Capital Budget for Council's consideration. Unfortunately in December 2022, an issue with the seals on the units rendered 6 of the panels inoperable and necessitated the requested expedited purchase timeline.

DISCUSSION:

Live fire training is an integral part of our recruit training program and our firefighter skills maintenance program. This training is also necessary to maintain our current full service rating as defined in the British Columbia Fire Service Minimum Training Standards Playbook. Pre budget approval to replace these fire training panels will allow us to continue delivering this training to our members and meet Provincial standards. It will also ensure that we meet our recruit training program completion date of August 2023 as well.

The original quote to replace these panels was \$77,543.83. Due to the fact that the failure of the original units was related to their construction, staff were able to have the supplier reduce the replacement cost down to \$57,094.29 which is a savings of over \$20,000.00. That said, the new price will only be held until

February 8 2023 at which time a new quote would be requested and a minimum 10% increase would be added.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

This purchase is included in the 2023 – 2027 financial plan and funded by the Fire Machinery & Equipment Reserve.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS:

N/A

STRATEGIC PLAN REFERENCE:

We focus on organizational and governance excellence

●▲ Value community safety and support our protective services

We proactively plan & invest in our natural & built environment.

●▲ Advocate, collaborate and act to reduce air quality contaminants.

- **AREA OF CONTROL:** The policy, works and programming matters that fall within Council's jurisdictional authority to act
- ▲ **AREA OF INFLUENCE:** Matters that fall within shared or agreed jurisdiction between Council and another government or party
- **AREA OF CONCERN:** Matters of interest that are outside Council's jurisdictional authority to act

OFFICIAL COMMUNITY PLAN SUSTAINABILITY REFERENCE:

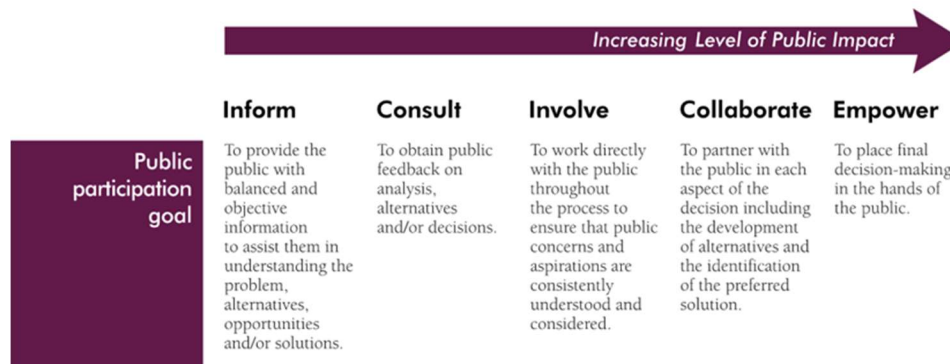
Not applicable

REGIONAL GROWTH STRATEGY REFERENCE:

Not applicable

CITIZEN/PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT:

Staff will **inform** based on the IAP2 Spectrum of Public Participation:



OPTIONS:

- OPTION 1: THAT Council approve the immediate purchase of six Bullex Digital Fire Training Panels in the amount of \$57,094.29.
- OPTION 2: THAT Council refer back to staff for further review.
- OPTION 3: THAT Council receives this report for information only.

Prepared by:



Kurt MacDonald, ECFO
Fire Chief

Concurrence:



Geoff Garbutt, M.Pl., MCIP, RPP
City Manager (CAO)