

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

224



**FROM:** Fire

**SUBMITTAL DATE:**  
January 21, 2014

**SUBJECT:** Authorization of Standardization which allows the release of a brand specific Request for Quotation (RFQ) of the Plymovent Vehicle Exhaust Extraction Systems for Fire Department All Districts/All Districts [\$0]

**RECOMMENDED MOTION:** That the Board of Supervisors authorize the standardization and direct the purchasing agent to release a Request for Quotation (RFQ), on behalf of the Fire Department, using the brand specific of Plymovent Vehicle Exhaust Extraction System and not allow a proposed equivalent product for a total of five (5) years.

**BACKGROUND:**

**Summary**

The Riverside County Fire Department has identified the Plymovent Vehicle Exhaust Removal Systems as the most beneficial system related to the removal of toxic vehicle exhaust to mitigate a hazardous environment within the fire station's apparatus bay.

Continued on Page 2

  
 John R. Hawkins  
 County Fire Chief


Departmental Concurrence

Purchasing:   
 Mark Seiler, Assistant Director

FINANCIAL DATA	Current Fiscal Year:	Next Fiscal Year:	Total Cost:	Ongoing Cost:	POLICY/CONSENT (per Exec. Office)
COST	\$ n/a	\$ n/a	\$ n/a	\$ n/a	Consent <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
NET COUNTY COST	\$ n/a	\$ n/a	\$ n/a	\$ n/a	
<b>SOURCE OF FUNDS:</b>				Budget Adjustment: No	
				For Fiscal Year: 13/14	

**C.E.O. RECOMMENDATION:**

APPROVE

BY:   
 Tina Grande

County Executive Office Signature

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

- Positions Added
- Change Order
- A-30
- 4/5 Vote

Prev. Agn. Ref.:

District: All

Agenda Number:

**3-7**

**BACKGROUND:**

**Summary (continued)**

The Purchasing Policy Manual, section 2.20, Equal Clause states that; "whenever reference to a specific brand name is used in the specifications of an RFP or RFQ, it is illustrative and to be construed as a specification which describes a component that has been tested or evaluated by the County as best meeting specific operational, design, performance, maintenance, quality and reliability standards and requirements of the County, thereby incorporating these requirements by reference within the specification. An equivalent ("or equal") may be offered by the bidder, subject to testing or evaluation by the County prior to award of contract." The Fire Department is requesting to standardize on the Plymovent brand Vehicle Exhaust Extraction System and not allow an "or equal" as part of the Request for Quotation (RFQ) process.

Diesel engines, used in fire apparatus, produce a mixture of toxic gases and particulates as the result of the combustion process. Firefighter exposure to diesel fuel emissions from fire apparatus within the fire station represents a significant hazard. The Plymovent Vehicle Exhaust Removal System removes toxic vehicle exhaust and mitigates a hazardous environment within the fire station's apparatus bay. The system is a mechanical exhaust system designed and constructed to capture air contaminants at the source tailpipe. It offers a means to virtually eliminate firefighter exposure to diesel fuel emissions.

The Department is committed to installing 100% source capture systems within newly constructed stations and it is the Department's goal to retrofit all remaining county stations as our budget allows. The Plymovent Exhaust Removal System utilizes a patented pneumatic nozzle attached to the fire apparatus' tailpipe and provides for a 100% capture rate of exhaust fumes. To enable the system to work, the fire apparatus must be equipped with specialized tailpipes. This system does require a tail pipe modification and 70% of the Department's Fire apparatus have been modified to accommodate the Plymovent System. It is imperative in our Departments regionally integrated fire protection service that all systems under the operational authority of Riverside County Fire Department have compatible exhaust capturing systems at every facility. When "move up" or "mutual aid" situations occur in the area, the vehicles that pull into our stations must be able to hook up to the Plymovent System. The incompatibility of connections with different systems would not best protect the firefighters and the environment within the facility. Currently, fifty (50) of the ninety-five (95) active Fire Stations within our regionally integrated system utilized the Plymovent Exhaust Removal System.

The Plymovent Exhaust Removal System is the only system compatible with the fifty Plymovent Systems currently installed in our fire stations. It is recommended based on the Department's safety committee review, acceptance and consistency in use and application, that the Plymovent System be standardized for five (5) years. At the end of the five years, the Department will re-evaluate the compatibility of all systems available.

**Impact on Citizens and Businesses**

There is no impact to citizens or businesses.

**SUPPLEMENTAL:**

**Additional Fiscal Information**

The Department will purchase a single system estimated at \$64,000 in the current fiscal year. This single purchase is included in our current budget. Additional systems are planned for future fiscal years until all fire stations are equipped. Each system will vary in costs depending on size of the apparatus bay and will be presented as part of our proposed budget as funding allows. No additional funding is requested.

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
FORM 11: Authorization of Standardization which allows the release of a brand specific Request  
for Quotation (RFQ) of the Plymovent Vehicle Exhaust Extraction Systems for Fire Department**

**DATE: January 21, 2014**

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**Contract History and Price Reasonableness**

Upon approval of this request, a formal RFQ will be completed. The Plymovent brand system has multiple distributors available to provide competitive pricing to the County of Riverside meeting the County Purchasing Policy and ensuring the County receives the best possible pricing. We know of three (3) distributors that may bid.