

CITY OF OAKLAND

Agenda Report

TO: Office of the City Manager
ATTN: Deborah Edgerly
FROM: Fire Department
DATE: October 14, 2003

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION AWARDING TWO CONTRACTS TO L.N. CURTIS AND BRICKER MINCOLLA FOR FIREFIGHTER PROTECTIVE FOOTWEAR IN A TOTAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED TWO HUNDRED SIXTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$260,000), FOR BOTH CONTRACTS, FOR THE PERIOD AUGUST 31, 2003 THROUGH AUGUST 30, 2006, AND AUTHORIZING CITY MANAGER TO EXTEND SAID CONTRACTS, ONE YEAR AT A TIME, UNTIL AUGUST 31, 2008, FOR A TOTAL ANNUAL EXPENDITURE FOR BOTH CONTRACTS, THEREAFTER, OF EIGHTY SIX THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED SIXTY SIX DOLLARS (\$86,666)

Summary

A resolution has been prepared awarding two contracts to L.N. Curtis and Bricker Mincolla to provide firefighter wildland, turnout and station protective footwear, in an amount not to exceed two hundred sixty thousand dollars (\$260,000) for the period August 31, 2003 through August 30, 2006.

Fiscal Impact

The contracts will not exceed two hundred sixty thousand dollars (\$260,000) during this three-year period. The funding for these contracts has been budgeted in the Fire Department budget. One-third of the funds will be encumbered each Fiscal Year and are available in **Organization Code 20816, Account 52900** in the Department's general fund budget.

Background

Structural firefighting boots and footwear are part of the firefighting protective clothing mandated by CAL-OSHA and the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between International Association of Firefighters, Local 55 and the City of Oakland.

The Oakland Fire Department (OFD) Safety Clothing committee, which is comprised of two members that represent firefighting personnel, the Captain in the OFD procurement unit, and the Deputy Chiefs of Operations and Technical Services, have evaluated the various manufacturers of protective footwear. Firefighting personnel field-tested at least six different types of footwear from various manufacturers over a twelve month period.

Manufacturers presented their products showing features, designs and types of materials offered. This hands-on evaluation included a *wear test*, which provided insight as to the various designs, cuts and types of materials and boot specifications. The boots were evaluated on material, inner construction, comfort, weight, ease of movement without restrictions, water resistance, ability to provide equal or greater protection than the boots that are currently in use and costs.

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The Fire Department Safety Committee and Support Services staff have determined that an additional alternative to the current firefighter footwear is an all leather wildland firefighting boot. This boot offers greater protection, safety and durability than the rubber boot currently in use. Additionally, the committee required that the product meet both NFPA and CAL-OSHA standards. Previously only CAL-OSHA standards were required. The additional NFPA requirement assures that all safety considerations of the footwear are met.

The Committee determined that the Ranger manufacturer and Warrington Pro firefighting footwear met the product specifications. The Ranger brand and Warrington Pro offers specific patented items and qualities that are not present in other brands. They include:

- ⇒ Fit and comfort of the boot.
- ⇒ The boots are NFPA and CAL-OSHA approved.
- ⇒ Soles and Heel Blocker provide better traction on all surfaces and footing on a variety of surfaces, thereby increasing firefighter safety.
- ⇒ The boot gives greater ankle and foot stability, increasing wearer's mobility, and decreasing firefighter fatigue, which could result in reducing injuries.
- ⇒ The leather boot is water and chemical proof.
- ⇒ Insole moisture barrier membrane that keeps feet dry from outside liquids and allows perspiration to evaporate.
- ⇒ The pricing of the boots meets the budget requirements, which are the most cost effective.

Key Issues and Impacts

L.N. Curtis is the only Northern California distributor of the Ranger and Warrington Pro brand of firefighting footwear. The Oakland Fire Department sworn personnel require both brands because of variation in boot sizes and the need to properly outfit each sworn member with a boot that has a comfortable fit.

The Oakland Fire Department will purchase the wildland firefighting boots and the turnout boots from L.N. Curtis on an annual basis. The average cost of the wildland and turnout boots is estimated not to exceed \$67,000 per year. The average costs are based upon normal use and do not factor in any major emergencies that could result in increased costs.

L.N. Curtis is an Oakland based, local distributor of fire safety clothing and equipment and has been operating in Oakland for a number of years.

The station boot that is also a requirement for sworn personnel must also be CAL-OSHA approved. After a careful review, the Fire Department Safety Committee has identified two locally based vendors, L.N. Curtis and Bricker Mincolla, the uniform vendor, that can supply a variety of station boots that meet all specifications and are competitively priced.

Bricker Mincolla is also an Oakland based, local distributor of fire safety clothing and equipment and has been operating in Oakland for a number of years. The average cost of the station boots that will be purchased from Bricker Mincolla and L.N. Curtis is estimated not to exceed \$19,666 per year.

Firefighting footwear is a mandated requirement by CAL-OSHA and the Local 55 and City of Oakland Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), which represents all sworn personnel. The Oakland Fire Department is required to provide:

- ◆ On-going replacement of damaged or sub-standard footwear worn by sworn personnel responding to emergency situations; and
- ◆ protective footwear for firefighter recruits in the training academies.

Finally, the fiscal year budget for wildland, turnout and station boots is approximately \$86,667 per year. From the 2003-04 fiscal year budget of \$86,667, approximately 250 pairs of wildland boots will be purchased at an average cost of \$225 per pair of boots. Currently, the sworn personnel do not have wildland firefighting boots, therefore a pair will be purchased for half of the sworn members in Spring 2004 and the remaining boots will be purchased upon receipt of the new fiscal year budget 2004-05, on July 1, 2004, for the remaining members, in anticipation of the upcoming wildland fire season. Turnout and Station boots will also be purchased. Currently, we are purchasing approximately one hundred (100) pairs of station and turnout boots per fiscal year. The boot quantities are approximations based upon normal use and do not take major emergencies/disasters into consideration. It there is a major emergency/disaster the result could be increased footwear purchases based upon usage and needs during any given year.

Sustainable Opportunities

Economic- The purchase of the appropriate footwear will ensure the safety and well being of sworn personnel during work hours and especially during emergencies. This will assist in reducing work related injuries. Additionally, the vendor selected is based in Oakland and has been established in Oakland for many years. Purchasing footwear from the two local vendors will advocate the "Shop and Buy Oakland" goals.

Environmental- There are no environmental opportunities associated with this report.

Social Equity- There are no social equity opportunities associated with this report.

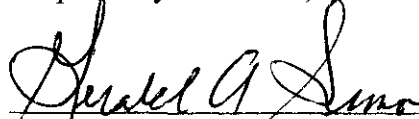
Disability and Senior Citizen Access

There are no ADA or senior citizen access issues associated with this report.

Recommendation

Staff recommends that the City Council waive formal advertising and bidding requirements as it is in the best interests of the City to purchase the necessary protective clothing from local-based vendors and adopt the resolution that authorizes the City Manager to execute a contract with L.N. Curtis and Bricker Mincolla to provide firefighter protective footwear in an amount not to exceed two hundred sixty thousand dollars (\$260,000) for the period August 31, 2003 through August 30, 2006.

Respectfully submitted,

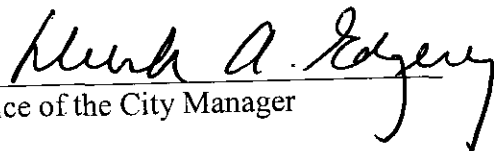


GERALD A. SIMON

Fire Chief

Prepared by: Renee A. Domingo
Human Resources/Special Projects Manager

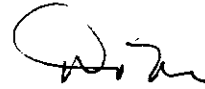
APPROVED AND FORWARDED
TO THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE:


Office of the City Manager

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Public Safety Committee
October 14, 2003

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION NO. _____ C.M.S.



RESOLUTION AWARDING TWO CONTRACTS TO L.N. CURTIS AND BRICKER MINCOLLA FOR FIREFIGHTER PROTECTIVE FOOTWEAR IN A TOTAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED TWO HUNDRED SIXTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$260,000), FOR BOTH CONTRACTS, FOR THE PERIOD AUGUST 31, 2003 THROUGH AUGUST 30, 2006, AND AUTHORIZING CITY MANAGER TO EXTEND SAID CONTRACTS, ONE YEAR AT A TIME, UNTIL AUGUST 31, 2008, FOR A TOTAL ANNUAL EXPENDITURE FOR BOTH CONTRACTS, THEREAFTER, OF EIGHTY SIX THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED SIXTY SIX DOLLARS (\$86,666)

WHEREAS, firefighter protective footwear is mandated by CAL-OSHA to ensure a basic level of safety and protection for firefighting personnel; and

WHEREAS, the Fire Department determined, through staff research and usage that the Ranger and Warrington Pro brands of firefighter footwear provide a greater level of protection and safety than most other brands and offers specific patented items and qualities that are not present in other brands; and

WHEREAS, L.N. Curtis is the only Northern California distributor of the Ranger and Warrington Pro Brand of firefighter footwear for wild land firefighting boots and turnout boots; and

WHEREAS, Bricker Mincolla can also provide station boots that meet CAL-OSHA standards, are competitively priced and provide the variety of sizes that are required by Oakland Fire Department sworn personnel; now, therefore, be it.

RESOLVED, that the City Manager is authorized to execute a contract with L.N. Curtis and a contract with Bricker Mincolla for firefighter footwear for OFD personnel, for the period August 31, 2003 through August 30, 2006, in amounts not to exceed a total expenditure of two hundred sixty thousand dollars (\$260,000) for said term; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Council finds and determines, in accordance with Oakland Municipal Code Chapter 2.04.050, Section I, subparagraph 2, that it is in the best interests of the City to waive the formal bidding requirements and award the contracts to L.N. Curtis and Bricker Mincolla; and, be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Manager may elect to extend all or parts of this contract one year at a time after August 30, 2006, with terms and conditions remaining the same, in an annual amount not to exceed a total expenditure under both contracts of eighty six

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thousand six hundred sixty six dollars (\$86,666) per year for a total period of two years thereafter.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Manager is authorized to allocate funds as needed to each of the contracts; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: the contracts shall be approved for form and legality by the Office of the City Attorney and a copy placed on file in the Office of the City Clerk.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, _____, 20_____

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES-BROOKS, BRUNNER, CHANG, NADEL, QUAN, REID, WAN AND PRESIDENT DE LA FUENTE
NOES-
ABSENT-
ABSTENTION-

ATTEST: _____
CEDA FLOYD
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council of the
City of Oakland, California

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PUBLIC SAFETY CMTE.
City Council
OCT 14 2003