



CITY COUNCIL MEETING

AGENDA SECTION	CONSENT
MEETING DATE	OCTOBER 26, 2026

ITEM:	Authorization to Purchase ROTO-DECON SCBA and Hardgoods Extractor and Award Contract to MacQueen Equipment		
<i>Presenting Item: Daniel O'Brien, Fire Chief</i>			
DEPARTMENT: Fire		BY/DATE: Daniel O'Brien / October 21, 2026	
CORE CITY STRATEGIES: <i>(please indicate areas that apply by adding an "X" in front of the selected text below)</i>			
☐ Community that Grows with Purpose and Equity		☒ Engaged, Effective and Forward-Thinking	
☐ High Quality Public Spaces		☐ Resilient and Prosperous Economy	
☐ Safe, Accessible and Built for Everyone		☐ Inclusive and Connected Community	

BACKGROUND

Firefighters are routinely exposed to hazardous substances, including carcinogens, soot, and other contaminants that can accumulate on personal protective equipment (PPE) and firefighting equipment. Proper cleaning and decontamination are essential components of firefighter occupational health and safety programs.

The Columbia Heights Fire Department does not currently possess a specialized cleaning system for self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) and other firefighting equipment. The proposed purchase of a Circul-Air ROTO-DECON extractor would establish a new decontamination capability for the Department, allowing for the systematic cleaning of SCBA, helmets, boots, gloves, and other firefighting equipment. The system provides automated cleaning cycles designed to improve decontamination effectiveness, reduce manual cleaning requirements, and support industry standards for firefighter protective equipment maintenance.

This purchase will address an existing gap in the Department's equipment decontamination capabilities, reduce potential occupational exposure to hazardous contaminants, and support the long-term health and safety of Department members.

SUMMARY OF CURRENT STATUS

The Fire Department has identified available funds within its 2026 operating budget resulting from employee turnover and associated personnel savings. Staff proposes utilizing these funds to purchase the ROTO-DECON extractor without requesting additional funding.

In accordance with the City's Purchasing Policy, staff reviewed pricing from multiple vendors to evaluate purchase cost and overall value. The pricing reviewed included:

Vendor	Price
MacQueen Equipment	\$30,800.00
Darley	\$28,000.95
The Fire Store	\$30,000.39
The EMS Store	\$30,000.39

The alternative prices represent advertised equipment pricing and do not establish comparable total delivered and installed costs.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the City Council authorize the purchase of one Circul-Air ROTO-DECON SCBA and Hardgoods Extractor from MacQueen Equipment in the amount of \$30,800.

MacQueen is an established City vendor with a history of satisfactory performance. Unlike the other vendors, MacQueen's quotation includes installation, and the company has confirmed its ability to meet the Department's year-end delivery timeline.

This purchase represents an investment in firefighter occupational health and safety, improves equipment decontamination capabilities, and provides a practical means of utilizing available 2026 personnel savings for a long-term operational benefit.

RECOMMENDED MOTION(S):

MOTION: Move to authorize the Fire Department to enter into an agreement with MacQueen Emergency Group in the amount of \$30,800.00 for the purchase, delivery, and installation of one Circul-Air ROTO-DECON SCBA and Hardgoods Extractor, with funding to come from available personnel savings within the 2026 Fire Department operating budget.

ATTACHMENT(S)

Roto-Decon Sell Sheet.pdf

Roto-Decon Quotations.pdf