



CONFIRE

STAFF REPORT

DATE: July 21, 2022

**FROM: Mike Bell, Acting Director
CONFIRE Admin Committee**

TO: CONFIRE Board of Directors

SUBJECT: RFP# 2022-01 for ALS Ambulance Transportation Services

RECOMMENDATION

Endorse CONFIRE Admin Committee direction to solicit a third-party ambulance provider via RFP# 2022-01 as a partner agency in preparation for a CONFIRE response and proposal to San Bernardino County's pending ALS Transportation RFP, due out by the end of 2022.

BACKGROUND

In October of 2021, the County of San Bernardino directed their staff to initiate a process to put a portion of the ALS Ambulance transportation system of to bid. The County has hosted two workshops on the process, the RFP is expected to be released as early as September, but no later than December of 2022. The RFP will request proposals for ALS emergency (9-1-1) and inter-facility transport (IFT) services to be provided in 11 of the 27 Exclusive Operating Areas (EOA) in the County. These areas are currently served primarily by American Medical Response (AMR) and include most of the Valley areas as well as the metro areas of the High Desert. This does not include the following areas served by CONFIRE: the Cities of Rialto and Hesperia, the communities of Big Bear Lake and Big Bear City of Running Springs, any areas presently served by San Bernardino County Fire ambulances, remote areas served by other providers (Needles, Trona, Parker Strip, Kramer Junction etc).

The CONFIRE Admin Chiefs are pursuing the option of bidding on this RFP to become the ambulance provider for the 11 EOA's under consideration. CONFIRE, per the FY 22/23 Budget process has created an EMS Division in anticipation of this process. At the April 21 CONFIRE Board meeting Ontario was approved as a contract agency with CONFIRE for the purpose of participating in this process. At the April 7 Special Admin Committee meeting the Admin Chiefs approved a contract with AP Triton to assist in the development of an RFP that would solicit a third-party transport provider to partner with CONFIRE in responding to the pending San Bernardino County RFP for ALS Ambulance contract.

The at the June 28 CONFIRE Administrative Committee meeting, the Admin Chiefs directed staff to publish the RFP #2022-01 on the CONFIRE PlanetBids online procurement portal. That RFP was posted on July 1. Interested bidders were required to register on the portal and attend a mandatory pre-proposal bidder's conference on July 11. Six agencies participated in the conference. CONFIRE posted answers to bidder questions on July 15. The proposals are due August 15. The review and evaluation process will include a scoring of the written proposals, presentations by the most responsive bidders, reference checks, and interviews. This process should conclude in late August. If CONFIRE selects a qualified proposer, a contract negotiation process would commence. This contract would need to come before the CONFIRE Board for approval.

FISCAL IMPACTS

Initial fiscal impacts are the \$250,000 contract with AP Triton to assist with the RFP process. The contract with the selected bidder would not encumber any costs until San Bernardino County RFP concludes and CONFIRE is the selected provider for ambulance services in the region. The results of that process would also need to come before the CONFIRE Board for approval before any fiscal impacts are incurred. The CONFIRE Admin Chiefs will keep the CONFIRE Board apprised of the progress of both RFP's through the process.

ATTACHMENTS: CONFIRE RFP# 2022-01 ALS Ambulance Transportation Services