
INTEROFFICE



MEMORANDUM

To: Melissa Marsh, City Manager

From: Greg Lelito, Fire Chief

Re: Capital Purchase – Lager Diameter Hose

Date: 8/31/2026

Consistent with the City's Capital Improvement Plan, funds have been allocated in the FY 2026–2027 budget for the purchase of new large-diameter hose (LDH). The new hose will replace the Fire Department's entire existing LDH inventory.

The current inventory of LDH is more than 11 years old. NFPA 1962, Standard for the Care, Use, Inspection, Service Testing, and Replacement of Fire Hose, Couplings, Nozzles, and Fire Hose Appliances, recommends that fire departments give careful consideration to a 10-year maximum service life for all fire hose. LDH is a flexible hose used to transfer large volumes of water from a fire hydrant to a fire engine and is a critical component of fireground water-supply operations.

On August 4, 2026, a bid package was posted on BidNet Direct. On August 24, 2026, nine bids were received, and one was denied for failing to follow submittal guidelines. On the same day, eight bids from various hose vendors were opened. A review of the bid packages found that three contained exceptions to the required specifications, while the remaining bids indicated that all specifications were met.

The eight vendors submitted five different hose manufacturers for evaluation. Of the five manufacturers, only three met all required specifications, including two key requirements: hose weight and coupling design. Hose weight is a critical factor during fireground operations, as firefighters routinely lift, pull, and maneuver LDH by hand. A lighter hose reduces the physical demands placed on firefighters during deployment and retrieval.

The specification also required anodized hose couplings due to their increased resistance to corrosion and wear. Anodized couplings provide added protection from moisture, road salt, chemicals, and the harsh conditions encountered during fireground operations. This protection can extend the service life of the couplings and help ensure reliable connections during critical water-supply operations.

Staff and I recommend that City Council award the Fire Department's LDH bid to the lowest qualified vendor, CSI Emergency Apparatus, in the amount of \$51,645.00. CSI Emergency Apparatus is a trusted vendor with whom the City and Fire Department have worked successfully for several years.

If you should have any questions or comments, I would be happy to address them at your convenience.