

City Council Meeting

Agenda Item

Data Sheet

Meeting Date: August 18, 2025

Topic:

Discussion regarding a contract with the Siddons Martin Emergency Group for the purchase of a Pierce Custom Velocity 100' Mid-Mount Aerial Ladder Truck through the Houston-Galveston Area Council Contract # FS12-13, for a not-to-exceed amount of \$2,684,698.00, authorize the expenditure of funds therefor, and authorize the City Manager to execute any and all documents related to the expenditure. This amount will not be expended until the completion of the apparatus which is projected in September of 2029, within fiscal year 2029.

Background:

Tomball Fire Rescue is requesting to proceed with the purchase of a new Pierce Mid-Mount 100-foot Aerial Ladder Truck. This apparatus will replace the current 2007 Pierce Rear Mount 75-foot Aerial Ladder Truck, which presently serves in a reserve capacity and as a supplemental pumper truck.

The new aerial ladder truck is a critical upgrade for our department's operational readiness and long-term service delivery. This purchase, totaling nearly \$2.7 million, reflects the growing service demands in our city and the department's commitment to maintaining high standards of safety, reliability, and efficiency in emergency response. Importantly, this expenditure will not be invoiced until the completion of the apparatus, which aligns with current industry delivery times.

This replacement aligns with NFPA 1900, which provides guidance on the service life and replacement of fire apparatus. According to NFPA-recommended best practices, frontline fire apparatus should ideally be replaced at 15 years, with a transition to reserve status, and completely retired at 20–25 years depending on condition, maintenance, and usage.

The 2007 Pierce aerial ladder, now 18 years old, has exceeded its optimal frontline service life. It has served reliably, but ongoing maintenance costs and parts availability present increasing challenges. Additionally, current safety and technological standards for aerial ladder trucks have advanced significantly since its manufacture.

Origination: Fire Department

Recommendation: Approval

Party(ies) responsible for placing this item on agenda: Joe Sykora, Fire Chief

FUNDING (IF APPLICABLE)

Are funds specifically designated in the current budget for the full amount required for this purpose?

Yes: _____ No: _____

If yes, specify Account Number: # 600-651-6405 _____

If no, funds will be transferred from account: # _____ To Account: # _____

Signed:	Joe Sykora, Fire Chief		Approved by:		
	Staff Member	Date		City Manager	Date