



Office of the City Manager

CONSENT CALENDAR
December 10, 2024

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
From: Paul Buddenhagen, City Manager
Submitted by: Terrance Davis, Director, Public Works
Subject: Purchase Order: Braun Northwest Inc. for Two (2) 2025 Ford F-450 North Star Engine Remount of Ambulance Bodies to New Chassis

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution satisfying requirements of City Charter allowing the City of Berkeley ("City") to participate in HGACBuy contract bid procedures and authorizing the City Manager to purchase two (2) 2025 Ford F-450 North Star Ambulance chassis with Braun Northwest, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$430,000.00.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

The purchase of two (2) 2025 Ford F-450 North Star ambulance chassis will not exceed \$430,000.00. This purchase total includes document fees, California tire fees and delivery charges. Funding for this purchase is available in the FY 2025 baseline Equipment Replacement Fund 671.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

This purchase will replace the chassis of two (2) ambulances Equipment ID 19001 and 19003 that are nearing the end of useful service life as front line, initial response vehicles. Both vehicles were put in service in 2020 and are planned for replacement in July 2026. The average time to remount and upfit an ambulance is 12 plus months which is why the purchase is being requested at this time.

The existing ambulance bodies are customized for optimal use, are in good repair and will be remounted on new chassis. The practice of remounting ambulance bodies on new chassis rather than purchasing new ambulances is an effective cost saving measure as it will save over \$100,000.

These vehicles are used 24/7 by the City's Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Division in the course of their job duties.

This purchase agreement will support the City's Strategic Plan Goal of creating a resilient, safe, connected, and prepared City.

BACKGROUND

If a purchase request exceeds \$100,000.00, the Department of Finance, General Services Division solicits bids or “piggybacks” off competitively bid contracts to ensure the City’s departments are receiving the best pricing.

The City of Berkeley has been a no-cost member of the Houston-Galveston Area Council (HGACBuy), a Cooperative Purchasing Program that has offered inter-local purchasing since 2008. HGACBuy provides procurement services that make the government procurement process more efficient by establishing competitively priced contracts for goods and services made available to local governments nationwide.

All products and services offered through HGACBuy have been subjected to a public competitive bid process. On June 9, 2023, HGACBuy released a Request for Proposal No. AM 10-23 for Ambulances, EMS and Other Special Service Vehicles. The solicitation was nationally advertised for forty-eight days (48). On August 10, 2023, twenty-three (23) proposals were submitted and reviewed. On October 1, 2023, Houston-Galveston Area Council selected Braun Northwest, Inc. as the best responsive and responsible proposers to meet the specifications, thusly awarding Contract No. AM10-23

HGACBuy charges an order processing charge for each sale successfully completed through their contract. For this purchase a flat fee of \$4,000.00 will be paid directly to HGACBuy by Braun Northwest, Inc.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE IMPACTS

For fleet purchases, Public Works staff researches the feasibility and availability of fully electric vehicles and hybrid-electric powertrains to support the City’s transition off fossil fuels. Staff research found that there are no viable electric or hybrid electric ambulance chassis for consideration. The Fire Department would like to transition its fleet of front-line EMS vehicles to electric. This is likely to not be financially feasible until all firehouses are remodeled/rebuilt to include the appropriate infrastructure and/or the price of electric ambulance vehicles decrease or additional revenue is identified.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

The vehicles are in-service now and the chassis are past their useful life. These vehicle bodies are in good repair and can be remounted on new chassis. A purchase order is needed to purchase new chassis and transfer the current ambulance bodies. Ambulances in good working condition are essential to respond, provide treatment and transport for members of our community that experience medical emergencies.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

None. The purchase of new ambulances is cost prohibitive.

Purchase Agreement with Braun Northwest, Inc. For
Two (2) 2025 North Star Engine Remount

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CONTACT PERSON

Joy Brown, Operations Manager, (510) 981-6629

Don Colbert, Sr. Equipment Maintenance Supervisor, (510) 981-6467

David Sprague, Fire Chief (510) 981-3473

Attachment:

1: Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. ##,###-N.S.

PURCHASE ORDER WITH BRAUN NORTHWEST, INC FOR TWO (2) 2025 FORD F-450 NORTH START ENGINE REMOUNTS OF AMBULANCE BODIES TO NEW CHASSIS

WHEREAS, this purchase will replace engine chassis that are nearing the end of their useful service life as front line, initial response vehicles. Ambulances in good repair are needed by the City of Berkeley Fire Department to provide ambulatory services; and

WHEREAS, City Charter, by resolution, authorize the City to purchase goods without undergoing a competitive bid process if the City uses pricing obtained by another entity through a competitive bid process; and

WHEREAS, On June 9, 2023, HGACBuy released a Request for Proposal No. AM 10-23 for Ambulances, EMS and Other Special Service Vehicles. The solicitation was nationally advertised for forty-eight days (48). On August 10, 2023, twenty-three (23) proposals were submitted and reviewed. On October 1, 2023, Houston-Galveston Area Council selected Braun Northwest, Inc. as the best responsive and responsible proposers to meet the specifications, thusly awarding Contract No. AM10-23; and

WHEREAS, funding in the amount of \$430,000.00 is available in the FY 2025 baseline budget in the Equipment Replacement Fund (671); and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the City Manager is authorized to execute a purchase order for two (2) ambulance engine remounts to new chassis in the amount not to exceed \$430,000.00.