

**CITY OF PALM DESERT
STAFF REPORT**

MEETING DATE: October 23, 2025

PREPARED BY: Bertha A. Escobedo, Business Operations Manager

SUBJECT: AUTHORIZE THE PURCHASE OF TWO ADVANCED LIFE SUPPORT
PARAMEDIC REMOUNT UNITS FROM FRAZER, LTD

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Pursuant to PDMC Section 3.30.160(I), in the best interest of the City, authorize the purchase of two Advanced Life Support (ALS) Paramedic Remount Units from Frazer, LTD, of Houston, Texas, in the amount of \$623,020.32.
2. Authorize the City Manager to execute all documents necessary to effectuate this action.

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS:

The City of Palm Desert (City) and County of Riverside Fire (Fire Department) maintain a Cooperative Agreement (Agreement) for Fire Prevention, Rescue, and Emergency Medical Services. The Agreement designates operational responsibilities for each entity, and the City is responsible for fleet maintenance, including medic remounts.

To maintain the reliability, safety, and cost-effectiveness of its emergency response fleet, the Fire Department periodically evaluates its Advanced Life Support (ALS) Paramedic Units for replacement or refurbishment. Remounting aging medic units onto new chassis, coupled with refurbishment of the medic boxes, extends the service life of these critical vehicles, ensures compliance with current safety standards, reduces long-term maintenance costs, and supports the Department’s ability to provide uninterrupted, high-quality emergency medical services.

The Fire Department requests authorization to remount two medic units onto new 2024 Ford F-450 Gas 4x2 Super Cab chassis and refurbish the existing medic boxes through Frazer, Ltd., the original manufacturer and sole source provider for this work.

Station Number	Vehicle Number	Age	Miles
67	Medic 67	11 Years	130,603
67	Medic 267	10 Years	165,529

The quote provided by Frazer includes:

- **\$5,000 contingency** – intended to cover unforeseen or miscellaneous expenses that may arise during the build process. This is especially relevant for remounts, as the full condition of the unit cannot be determined until it is on-site. Any unused contingency funds will be deducted from the final invoice.
- **Trade-in value** – the existing chassis may have some trade-in or resale value; however, the amount is difficult to estimate in advance as it depends heavily on the final condition

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of the units once they arrive for remount and refurbishment. Any credit realized from a trade-in would be applied toward reducing the overall cost.

Frazer’s specialized expertise ensures compatibility with the existing medic boxes, maintains manufacturer warranties, and provides the required refurbishment to extend the units’ service life. Thus, staff recommends that proceeding with this subsequent purchase is in best interest of the City.

If approved, staff will coordinate with the Fire Department to order the new chassis and begin procurement of required materials. Lead time for the equipment is approximately one year. Upon receipt, the medic units will be transported to Frazer’s facility in Houston, Texas, for remounting and refurbishment. During this period, designated backup medic units will be deployed to maintain uninterrupted emergency response services.

Legal Review:

This report has been reviewed by the City Attorney’s office.

Strategic Plan:

Public Safety and Emergency Services section of the Palm Desert Strategic Plan, specifically under *Priority 1: Enhance the Delivery of Public Safety Services*. The priority strategy is to expand the existing superlative services provided by the fire and police departments to address future growth and safety concerns. One of the action steps is to identify public safety needs including new equipment.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

A total of \$746,771 for Fire Services/Cap-Autos/Vehicles is included in the approved FY 2025-26 Annual Budget and Capital Improvement Project (CIP) list in Account No. 5304220-4403000. The cost of the two units totals \$623,020.32; therefore, there is no impact to the General Fund with this action. The table below outlines the budget and expenses for current Fire Equipment purchases:

<i>FY 2025/26</i>	<i>Budget</i>	<i>Expenses</i>	<i>Balance</i>
<i>5304220-4403000</i>	\$275,000		
<i>FY 2024/25 Carryover</i>	\$471,771		
<i>Stryker Gurneys</i>		\$118,245	
<i>Contingency</i>		5,000	
<i>*Ambulance/remounts Q4607-1</i>		\$312,774	
<i>*Ambulance/remounts Q4608-1</i>		\$310,246	
<i>Total</i>	\$746,771	\$746,265	\$506

*Current request

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Frazer Estimate No. Q4607-0001
2. Frazer Estimate No. Q4608-0001