



## **TRUCKEE MEADOWS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT STAFF REPORT**

**Board Meeting Date: March 2, 2021**

**DATE:** February 12, 2021

**TO:** Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District Board of Fire Commissioners

**FROM:** Joe Schum, Division Chief  
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**THROUGH:** Charles A. Moore, Fire Chief  
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**SUBJECT:** Recommendation to authorize the District the purchase and installation of a Diesel Exhaust Extraction Equipment from Air Exchange Inc. to retrofit existing systems to standardize fire apparatus and fire stations. Retrofitting of existing equipment is approximately \$135,000 and shall be procured in accordance with NRS 332.115, Exemptions to Requirements for Competitive Bidding. (All Commission Districts) **FOR POSSIBLE ACTION**

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### **SUMMARY**

Staff is proposing to install new equipment and/or retrofit existing fire stations and fire apparatus with standardized diesel exhaust extraction equipment. The upgrades ensure all stations and apparatus are fully compatible and apparatus may be used safely at any station.

### **PREVIOUS ACTION**

February 2, 2021, the Board of Fire Commissioners approved budget augmentations that included \$125,000 towards Station Diesel Exhaust Systems in the Capital Projects Fund for new stations and stations where it is not economical to repair the existing equipment.

### **BACKGROUND**

Diesel exhaust contains carcinogens recognized to cause cancer and is recognized by NRS 617.453 as contributing to cancer as an occupational disease of firefighters and other persons employed in occupations related to fire. Diesel exhaust capture and exhaust is vital for the health and safety of staff who are routinely exposed to diesel exhaust.

Since 2012, the District installed exhaust systems in two fire stations that did have them, replaced one system, and ensured system installation in all new construction. The remaining stations had systems installed during the agreement with Reno Fire Department and these aging systems are of a different brand than the newer systems used by TMFR. The two exhaust system types have differing components used to activate the automatic system, which are not compatible. This limits which apparatus can be used at the stations throughout the district. Fleet growth, station consolidation and implementation of newer more efficient exhaust systems have led to compatibility issues between the different systems and

fire apparatus. As TMFR continues to grow, fleet utilization is increasingly important and requires compatibility of all apparatus in all stations. For example, when cover engines or reserve apparatus are placed into service.

Recognizing the importance of exhaust capture, staff has worked with Air Exchange Inc. to complete a retrofit program, ensuring all stations and apparatus are fully compatible. The cost to install a single system is approximately \$69,000.00. Therefore, the retrofit and upgrade all eleven stations to the newest technology saves approximately \$483,000.00 over complete replacement, ensuring fiscal responsibility and improving the safety of the work environment.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

The fiscal impact is estimated to be no more than \$135,000, of which \$125,000 was approved during the February 2, 2021 budget augmentation. The remaining \$10,000 falls within the original approved FY20/21 budget.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Staff Recommends the Board approve the purchase and installation of a Diesel Exhaust Extraction Equipment from Air Exchange Inc. to retrofit existing systems to standardize fire apparatus and fire stations. Retrofitting of existing equipment is approximately \$135,000 and shall be procured in accordance with NRS 332.115, Exemptions to Requirements for Competitive Bidding.

### **POSSIBLE MOTION**

Should the Board agree with staff's recommendation, a possible motion could be:

*"I move to approve the purchase and installation of a Diesel Exhaust Extraction Equipment from Air Exchange Inc. to retrofit existing systems to standardize fire apparatus and fire stations. Retrofitting of existing equipment is approximately \$135,000 and shall be procured in accordance with NRS 332.115, Exemptions to Requirements for Competitive Bidding."*