

## ADDENDUM NO. 2

DATE: June 23, 2022

TO: All Potential Bidders

FROM: Karisa Scott, Procurement Specialist, City of Knoxville

SUBJECT: Addendum No. 2 – Medium Duty Ambulance

BIDS TO BE OPENED: July 1, 2022, at 11:00:00 a.m. (Eastern Time)

This addendum is being published to answer questions from potential bidders and becomes a part of the Contract Document and modifies the original specifications as noted.

**Question #1: Does the Knoxville City Fire Department currently have an ambulance or ambulances in their fleet? If so, what brand box or boxes do they currently have mounted on the chassis?**

Response: No, the Knoxville Fire Department does not currently have an ambulance.

**Question #2: Is the City of Knoxville aware of the current chassis shortage? The following is a quote from Firehouse Magazine, "Freightliner and International are sold out until the 2024 model year, mostly because of higher demand for commercial trucks for other segments." Article - *Ambulance Chassis: Wait Times Soar, Costs Skyrocket* by James Phillips June 20, 2022.**

Response: The City is aware of supply chain issues currently affecting many industries. As noted in the bid specification, delivery times will be taken into consideration due to the deadline requirements for the funding source.

**Question #3: Will there be an addendum to change the expected year model since there will be no chassis available until 2024 and as recent estimates have stated as late as 2025 or 2026?**

Response: The City will accept bids that are for a chassis of the current model year OR the next model year that is available.

**Question #4: If wait times are shorter, would there be consideration for a different chassis? i.e., Ford F-450 or F-550, Dodge or Chevy?**

Response: The City will not consider a different chassis. Ford F-450 or F-550, Dodge or Chevy are much lighter GVW chassis. We require a medium duty truck chassis for specific reasons and a lighter chassis is not acceptable.

**Question #5: The addendum states: *Clarification on taking exceptions due to proprietary systems: Bidders may take exception to specifications which are proprietary in nature and not available to all potential suppliers but must provide documentation showing the alternative solution is equal in safety and function to the excepted specification.* There are many instances where the specification calls out “Bidder must fully comply without exception”. This statement follows many proprietary Horton design characteristics and options. These are proprietary items that you will not allow exception to. Does the statement above regarding exceptions apply to all proprietary items regardless of the “must comply without exception” statement?**

Response: This statement does not apply to ALL proprietary items. Exceptions **will not** be acceptable for specifications which are proprietary in nature but available to any potential supplier.

Furthermore, there are only ten instances where the phrase “Bidder must fully comply without exception” is used within the bid specifications:

1. Overall Height Restriction
2. Overall Length Restriction
3. Safety Certification
4. Body Construction
5. Emergency Release, Rear Doors
6. Emergency Release, Side Access Door
7. Tubular Airbag, Attendant Seat
8. Head Curtain Airbag, Attendant Seat
9. KKK-A-1822F Certification Label
10. Required Delivery Documents

As these specifications refer to basic construction requirements, safety requirements, and required documentation upon delivery of the apparatus the City will not accept deviations as any manufacturer should be able to adhere to these requirements.

Bidders may take exception to any proprietary design characteristics falling outside of the parameters outlined above. Any exceptions being taken must be accompanied by an explanation as to why the exception is being taken and how the alternative meets and/or exceeds the original specification.

**Question #6: Will the City of Knoxville be providing any drawings?**

Response: No, the City does not have any drawings to provide.