

**CITY COUNCIL
COMMUNICATION:**

ITEM _____

**OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER
CITY OF DES MOINES, IOWA**

99-513

SYNOPSIS -

AGENDA:

DECEMBER 6, 1999

On September 23, 1999, the Purchasing Division, on behalf of the Fire Department, requested bids for two 2000 Ford XLT 350 ambulances. Council authorization to proceed with the low bid is requested at this time.

SUBJECT:

AMBULANCE BID

FISCAL IMPACT -

Total cost of this purchase is \$217,502 (FIR041000, Account 544070-motor vehicles).

TYPE:

RESOLUTION
ORDINANCE
RECEIVE/FILE

RECOMMENDATION -

Authorization for the Fire Department to proceed with the purchase of two Life Line ambulances from the lowest responsible bidder (Emergency Sales & Service, Alexander, Iowa, Gene Draper, President).

SUBMITTED BY:

RON WAKEHAM
FIRE CHIEF

BACKGROUND -

The Fire Department presently staffs seven frontline medic units with three ambulances in reserve status. Both units, funded from the Operating Budget, will replace frontline units, as per our program of replacement based on mileage and condition.

Presently, the Fire Department's medic units are all Life Line modular units. In the past, with the acceptance of other vendors' products, we were experiencing problems with structural cracking and fatigue and sagging of the floor of the module. Due to the number of alarms we respond to and the number of miles driven annually, our specifications are quite stringent.

Although we encourage responses from all reputable

manufacturers, of the bids sent out, only Emergency Sales & Service replied with a quote.

In order to keep this bid competitive, and in the hope that someone will come forward who will build the unit we wish to purchase and not just attempt to sell us the stock unit off their showroom, the Fire Department requests that this remain an open bid. (These units were only \$2,072 higher than the two 1999's we purchased last year.)