



Department Source: Fire

To: City Council

From: City Manager & Staff

Council Meeting Date: October 3, 2022

Re: Professional Equipment & Services agreement for ice machines at fire stations

## Executive Summary

Establishes a new agreement between the City of Columbia Fire Department and Easy Ice, LLC for professional equipment and services for ice machines at the fire stations.

## Discussion

The Fire Department would like to enter into an agreement with Easy Ice to provide ice machines to fire stations 8, 9, and the Fire Training Academy. The current ice machines at these locations are the original units placed when the buildings were constructed and are in various states of disrepair. Several local and regional vendors have attempted repairs for these units; we are finding repair costs are beginning to out-weigh purchase of replacement units. The machine at the Fire Training Academy has reached the end of its useful service life and due to age, repair is no longer an option.

Staff have researched the cost of new units for each station and the option of continued repairs. We decided to proceed with leasing these units because this option includes the preventative maintenance, cleanings, and filter changes several times throughout the year with no additional charges. The cost to have these services performed on a purchased unit is excessive and time consuming often leaving us with no working unit for several weeks due to vendor and supply lead times.

Functional ice machines at the fire stations are critical for use during training events as well as emergency operations to keep fluid replacement drinks optimally cooled and ready for immediate use. When a unit is down, staff must travel to other fire stations for access to another machine or purchase ice from local vendors. This moves critical resources away from their primary response areas and increases budgetary impact.

The department has budgeted for this service in our rental line accounts and an appropriation is not required for this agreement.

## Fiscal Impact

Short-Term Impact: \$4512.20 annually

Long-Term Impact: less than \$5,000.00 annually (if agreement is renewed)



## Strategic & Comprehensive Plan Impact

### Strategic Plan Impacts:

Primary Impact: Safe Neighborhoods, Secondary Impact: Reliable Infrastructure, Tertiary Impact: Organizational Excellence

### Comprehensive Plan Impacts:

Primary Impact: Not Applicable, Secondary Impact: Not applicable, Tertiary Impact: Not Applicable

## Legislative History

None

## Suggested Council Action

Staff recommends approval of the Professional Equipment & Services agreement.