Bid Questions -Type 3 Ambulance Bid Marysville Fire District Marysville, WA

Page Paragraph # 10 1.2.1.b

Header/Language/Comments Price-Payment-Delivery

"Stated delivery time shall not exceed 500 calendar days from bid award."

Bidder Question: Is delivery date open to negotiation?

<u>Purchaser Response</u>: Bidder shall include an estimated and expected build time of the proposed apparatus. If the Bidder is unable to propose less than the 500 day requirement they shall take exception to this specification bids will be evaluated by the vendor's ability to produce apparatus in a reasonable timeframe.

10 1.2.1.f

Price-Payment-Delivery

"Final acceptance or rejection shall occur after the delivered unit has been evaluated and tested at the Purchaser's location to the full satisfaction of the Fire Chief or his designee."

<u>Bidder Question:</u> What are specifics of the above test requirements (e.g. tests and criteria for pass/fail)?

<u>Purchaser Response:</u> The finished apparatus shall be evaluated based upon compliance with the bid specifications and referenced material.

10 1.2.1.h

Price-Payment-Delivery

"The Vendor agrees that the Purchaser reserves the right to impose a late delivery price reduction of Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00) per day, per unit, for each day delivery is delayed beyond the stated delivery time. This amount shall be deducted from any outstanding scheduled payment(s) at time of delivery as applicable. No Exceptions"

<u>Bidder Question</u>: Deliveries of chassis from the OEM manufacture is subject to global pandemics, part shortages, workers strikes, and Ford's production choices, all of which can push final delivery of the ambulance past the delivery timeline requirement found in the bid. Additionally, long lead times on module components from third party suppliers can also delay delivery, due to no fault from the upfitter.

For these reasons, we request that the \$200/day late delivery penalty be removed from the bid requirements, or that language be added to the bid which removes the penalty if the delay is based upon delay in parts and/or the chassis, due to no fault of the ambulance upfitter.

<u>Purchaser Response:</u> It is not the position of the District to enter into agreements with no liquidated damages clause. If the Bidder is unwilling to accept the language of the specifications as written they shall take

exception to this specification. Bids shall not be rejected based upon this exception.

16 1.4.5.a

Contract Extension Provision

"The Purchaser reserves the right to exercise the Purchase of additional apparatus from the final contract for a period of up to three (3) years if in the best interest of the Purchaser. Additional purchases will be based the bid price and an adjustment for the Consumer Price Index and annual adjusted rate of inflation for emergency vehicles."

<u>Bidder Question:</u> To our knowledge, the CPI has a broad index for new vehicles, but not specifically for emergency vehicles. Given that ambulances are a specialized market, will comparable ambulance market prices at time of extension be acceptable for establishing a rate of inflation?

<u>Purchaser Response:</u> It is expected that CPI will be adjusted by comparable ambulance market prices and follow industry wide rates.

18 2.1.5.a

Electrical System Warranty

"A four (4) year limited multiplex system warranty shall be provided by the apparatus manufacture for parts and labor, while under normal use and service; against mechanical, electrical and physical defects from the date of installation."

<u>Bidder Question:</u> Is a hardwired relay-based electrical system acceptable in lieu of a multiplex electrical system?

<u>Purchaser Response:</u> Yes, a relay based electrical system is acceptable. Multiplex systems are not required, however if they are installed by the body builder they shall include all specified warranties.

21 3.4.1

Chassis and Body Manuals

"One (1) copy of all as-built operator, service, and parts manuals shall be supplied at the time of delivery-NO EXCEPTIONS! The manual shall include the following information:

- □ Operating Instructions, descriptions, specifications, and ratings of the cab, chassis, body, installed components, and auxiliary systems.
- □ Warnings and cautions pertaining to the operation and maintenance of emergency medical service apparatus and incorporated systems.
- ☐ Charts, tables, checklists, and illustrations relating to lubrication, cleaning, troubleshooting, diagnostics and inspections.
- ☐ Instructions regarding the frequency and procedure for recommended maintenance.
- ☐ Maintenance instructions for the repair and replacement of installed components.
- □ Parts listing with descriptions and illustrations for identification.
- ☐ *Warranty descriptions and coverage.*"

Bidder Question: In order to obtain the above chassis technical service information, an online Ford Motorcraft subscription is required, which includes workshop manuals, wiring diagrams, powertrain control/emissions diagnosis manual, TSB's, Dealer bulletins for Field Service Actions, Access to calibration for emission-related modules, and vehicle specific information. We can include the cost of in our bid (Current price for a one year subscription is \$2,699.95, per Ford), but we would have to mark it up to cover our taxes. To save money, would it be acceptable for City of Marysville to purchase this subscription directly and remove it from the bid, in order to avoid a price mark-up?

<u>Purchaser Response:</u> A copy of the Operators manual for the chassis as provided by the chassis manufacturer is sufficient for the chassis requirements. The Vendor shall include a service manual consisting of the specified information of all vendor manufactured and installed items upon apparatus delivery. In essence an owners/operators manual for the ambulance body. Chassis maintenance subscriptions are not a requirement.

31 4.1.3.d

Performance Tests and Requirements

"Tires and axle ratings must meet Washington State Department of Transportation laws with a fully laden apparatus at "in service weight".

<u>Bidder Question:</u> To calculate this, please provide your expected inservice weight, including all personnel, passengers, and equipment.

<u>Purchaser Response:</u> The GVWR and GAWR shall be used to determine the maximum in service weight of the vehicle.

38 5.6.1.a

Front Tires

"The front tires shall be two (2) tubeless 225-17 R16E all season steel belted radial tires with regional tread."

<u>Bidder Question:</u> Ford offers Hankook DynaPro HT LT225/75R16E BSW All Season tires on the 2025 E-Series DRW...are these acceptable?

<u>Purchaser Response</u>: This is an acceptable tire.

40 5.7.2.e

Anti-Lock Braking System

"A switch shall be provided and properly labeled "mud/snow". When the switch is pressed, the system shall allow a momentary wheel slip to obtain traction under extreme mud and snow conditions. During this condition the ATC light shall illuminate notifying the driver of activation."

<u>Bidder Question:</u> Ford labels their traction control switch "TCS OFF". Do you want an additional "mud/snow" label installed?

<u>Purchaser Response:</u> No additional labeling is required.

41 5.8.1.a

Engine

"The vehicle shall utilize a Ford 7.3L Electronic Fuel Injection V8
Premium engine as described below:
305 gross bhp at 4250 RPM
Maximum no load governed speed of 5200 RPM
350 lb.-ft. peak torque at 3,900 RPM
Eight (8)-cylinder, 4-cycle naturally aspirated"

<u>Bidder Question:</u> Ford has updated their 2025 7.3L engine to be rated at 325hp @ 3,800 RPM's and 450 lb/ft of torque @ 3,800 RPMs. We request for the bid specs to be updated.

<u>Purchaser Response:</u> At the time the specifications were written the details of the 2025 7.3L engine were unavailable. Engine performance of the most current 7.3L engine shall match the specifications as closely as possible but not modified from OEM by the bidder. The listed specifications are acceptable.

41 5.8.1.b

Engine

"The engine shall be compliant with 2025 or newer EPA Emission standards."

<u>Bidder Question:</u> In 4.1.1.f, the bid requires a "2024 or newer Ford E-Series" chassis. A 2024 chassis may not comply with a 2025 EPA standard. Currently, the 2024 E-Series order bank is open; is a 2025 model year chassis required?

<u>Purchaser Response:</u> The engine shall meet the EPA Emission standards for the year it was manufactured, a 2025 model chassis is not required.

41 5.8.2.a

Air Intake System

"The engine air intake shall be protected from direct frontal impingement by road debris, dust, road spray, and high-water "bow wakes"

<u>Bidder Question:</u> The air intake location on a Ford E-Series chassis is circled in red below, on top of the engine. From what depth of high water/bow wakes is the air intake to be protected from?

<u>Purchaser Response:</u> No modifications to the OEM air intake system are required to meet this specification.

43 5.9.1.d

Transmission

"A transmission oil temperature warning light and buzzer shall be installed on the cab instrument panel to warn the driver of high oil temperatures that may damage the transmission."

<u>Bidder Question:</u> Ford offers a Transmission fluid temperature gauge on the dash, which must be actively monitored by the driver (no warning light or buzzer is present, nor can either be added).

<u>Purchaser Response:</u> OEM warning device for transmission over temperature is sufficient to meet this criteria.

46 5.12.1.a

Alternator

"An OEM single 240-amp SAE (J56) rated alternator with internal rectifier, and regulator shall be installed in accordance with the engine manufacturer's recommendations."

<u>Bidder Question:</u> The last ambulance we build for Marysville had a single 240 amp alternator with a voltage monitor, and load testing showed that extra alternator capacity was minimal. We recommend upgrading to two alternators, with 397 amp total rating. Is this acceptable?

<u>Purchaser Response:</u> A dual alternator system that meets the demands of the electrical system is acceptable.

50 6.1.4.b

Steering Column

"The steering column shall contain a horn button, self-canceling turn signal switch, four-way hazard switch and headlamp dimmer switch."

<u>Bidder Question:</u> The four way hazard switch on an E-series is on the center of the dash. Request for bid to be updated.

<u>Purchaser Response:</u> Standard switch location for the hazard warning switch is acceptable.

52 6.1.9.g

Cab Instruments and Controls

"A master battery switch shall be provided. The switch shall be mounted to the left of the driver seat on the floor."

<u>Bidder Question:</u> Is it acceptable to locate the master disconnect switch on the driver's console, wired to an InPower SSC42-275 solid state contactor, as on Marysville's 2022 ambulance?

<u>Purchaser Response:</u> Location of the master disconnect shall be determined at preconstruction.

54 6.2.1.b

HVAC

"The defrosting system shall be capable of clearing 90% or more of the windshield in fifteen (15) minutes or less after a three (3) hour cold soak at 0 degrees Fahrenheit (-17.78 degrees Celsius)."

<u>Bidder Question:</u> Ford has not released data confirming compliance with the above requirement; no ambulance manufacturer that we know of has a facility capable of cold-soaking a vehicle at 0 degrees Fahrenheit, and as this is an OEM chassis defrosting system, modifications are not allowed by Ford. We request that this requirement be removed.

<u>Purchaser Response:</u> This specification is a performance requirement. The vendor shall not install any components to the OEM chassis system that diminishes the capacity of the HVAC heating or cooling system to the driver compartment of the vehicle to less than these standards.

55 6.4.1

Front Mud Flaps

"Mud flaps shall be installed on the rear of the cab front wheel wells."

<u>Bidder Question:</u> Are aluminum diamond plate running boards with front splash guards acceptable?

Purchaser Response: This is an acceptable substitution.

55 6.5.2.a

"Any power seat or seats installed in the cab shall be wired to battery hot and capable of operating without having the ignition in the on position."

<u>Bidder Question:</u> Ford does not offer powered seats on a cutaway E-Series chassis. Request that this requirement be removed.

<u>Purchaser Response:</u> If powered seats are not installed this requirement does not apply.

58 6.7.2.b

Indicator Lamps

"The following amber telltale lamps will be present:

<u>Bidder Question:</u> Ford OEM warning lights, buzzers, and colors may differ from above, and can not be modified by upfitters. Is the OEM chassis dash warning system acceptable?

Purchaser Response: OEM chassis dash wiring is acceptable.

61 7.1.1.a

Compartment Load Capacity

"Each compartment must be designed to carry a working load of 750 lbs. per compartment."

<u>Bidder Question:</u> Please confirm this requirement for the battery drawer? (Battery payload is typically less than 200-300 lb)

Purchaser Response: Standard compartment working load capacities are not required for the battery drawer. 62 7.1.4.bModule Compartments "The module shall be completely sanded and deburred to assure a smooth finish and painted job color." Bidder Question: We completely sand and deburr the surfaces of the module which will be painted (front, sides, back and roof of module; excluding the underside of the module). Is this acceptable? Purchaser Response: This is acceptable. 64 7.1.4.d Module Compartments "Each compartment seam shall be sealed using a permanent pliable silicone caulk." Bidder Question: To comply with Sherwin Williams paint warranty, we use Sikaflex 221-A polyurethane to seal our compartments; is this acceptable? <u>Purchaser Response:</u> A polyurethane sealant is acceptable. 64 7.1.5.c Module Compartment/Entrance Doors "The hinges shall be attached with a minimum $1/420 \times 3/4$ inch stainless steel pan head screws spaced a maximum of 4 inches apart." Bidder Question: " $1/420 \times \frac{3}{4}$ inch" appears to be a typo. Are $\frac{1}{4}$ " – 20 x ³/₄" screws required? <u>Purchaser Response:</u> Door hinges shall be attached with a minimum ¹/₄-20 stainless steel pan head screws spaced at a maximum of 4 inches apart. Self tapping fasteners, rivets, huck bolts or fasteners smaller than 1/4-20 are unacceptable. Module Compartment/Entrance Doors 65 7.1.5.d "All compartment door latches shall be semi flush chrome plated or stainless steel rotary style slam latches." Bidder Question: The above requirements for "chrome plating or stainless steel" is in reference to the latch handles, correct? Purchaser Response: Chrome plating or stainless steel is in reference to the latch handles. 66 7.1.5.p Module Compartment/Entrance Doors "All entrance door skins shall be high pressure laminate covered minimum 0.090 inch aluminum plate with 20 inch stainless steel

kick panels. Door skins shall be able to be removed to service door hardware."

<u>Bidder Question:</u> Due to an acceptable level of door panels cracking in extremely cold weather (due to differing expansion/contraction rates between aluminum and high pressure laminate), we now offer the following options for entrance door skins instead:

-0.080" thick aluminum diamond plate:

Mill-finished 16 ga. stainless steel:

Painted 0.80" thick aluminum doors (optional stainless steel kick panels available):

Is one of the above options acceptable in lieu of high pressure laminate?

<u>Purchaser Response:</u> These are acceptable options and determination shall be confirmed at pre construction.

70 7.2.8.c

Module Windows

"All module windows to be dark double limo tinted."

<u>Bidder Question:</u> Our double limo tint is a layer of 5% VLT black carbon tint applied to a window with 26% VLT OEM tint...is this acceptable?

<u>Purchaser Response:</u> Window tint shall be addressed at preconstruction to determine acceptable levels of visibility.

71 7.3.1.a

Compartment Ventilation

"To allow for proper air circulation & flow each compartment shall have a venting route. The venting locations shall be determined by best-fit for each body configuration. The vents shall include a louvered plates and installed appropriately on the compartment interior walls."

<u>Bidder Question:</u> Are filtered vents with stainless steel hex-punched covers acceptable?

<u>Purchaser Response:</u> Hex punched filtered vents in place of louvered plates are acceptable.

71 7.3.3.j

Compartment #1 Street Side Forward

"One filtered compartment vent shall be installed below floor level in the back wall of the compartment"

<u>Bidder Question</u>: With a 20"D compartment on this chassis, there isn't enough depth to install a filtered vent in the back wall of the compartment, without losing compartment space. Would it be

acceptable to install the filtered vent in the forward wall of Compartment #1 instead?

<u>Purchaser Response:</u> This is an acceptable location for the compartment vent.

72 7.3.4.i

Compartment #2 Street Side Rear

"One filtered compartment vent shall be installed in the area below the floor level on the back wall of the compartment."

<u>Bidder Question:</u> Per above, would it be acceptable to install two filtered vents, one each on the forward and aft walls of Compartment #2, instead of the back wall?

<u>Purchaser Response:</u> This is an acceptable location for the compartment vent.

73 7.3.5.f

Compartment #3 Curb Side Rear

"One filtered compartment vent shall be installed in the area below the floor level on the back wall of the compartment."

<u>Bidder Question:</u> Would it be acceptable to install two filtered vents, one each on the forward and aft walls of Compartment #3?

<u>Purchaser Response:</u> This is an acceptable location for the compartment vent.

74 7.4.4.a

Headliner

"The headliner shall be constructed of a non-porous material securely mounted to the ceiling with mechanical fasteners. The headliner shall be white in color."

<u>Bidder Question:</u> Is a white-painted aluminum ceiling welded into the structure of the ambulance acceptable?

<u>Purchaser Response:</u> Bidder shall take exception to this requirement and alternatives can be discussed during preconstruction.

76 7.4.5.d

Module Flooring

"The module floor shall be bacteriostatic incorporated to give flooring excellent anti-bacterial activity."

Bidder Question: Is a floor without added bacteriostat acceptable?

<u>Purchaser Response:</u> Bidder shall take exception to this requirement and provide alternatives to the specified product.

80 7.4.14.c

Seatbelts

"This cabinet shall be the streetside bench....Three (3) sets of lap style seat belts shall be installed on the bench seat."

<u>Bidder Question:</u> Per 7.5.11.a, the Cabinet #9 streetside bench is to be approximately 59 inches wide. At this width, only two two-point seatbelts (with buckles set at approximately 19" apart) will fit on the bench, with 10" of space remaining aft. Are two seatbelts acceptable on the streetside squad bench?

<u>Purchaser Response:</u> Due to the limitations of space only two sets of seat belts shall be required in this location.

84 7.4.16.d

Climate Control System

"The heater shall be plumbed with silicone high heat heater hose."

<u>Bidder Question:</u> use silicone high heat hose as it is not needed at the temperatures the OEM engine can operate at.

<u>Purchaser Response:</u> The use of high quality silicone heater hose remains a requirement of this specification. Extreme high heat hose is not required.

84 7.4.25.b

Oxygen Bottle Storage

"One (1) tip out dual cylinder holder with buckle latch shall be installed on the bottom curb side entrance door near the hinge."

<u>Bidder Question:</u> Would two Cast Products Duramount SAE J3043-compliant strapless D-cylinder brackets installed on the curbside entrance door be acceptable, in lieu of a custom tip-out cylinder holder which is not SAE J3043 compliant?

<u>Purchaser Response:</u> This is an acceptable substitution for the specified item.

92 7.5.15.d

Cabinet #13 Seat Bench with Storage Area

"Two (2) sets of two-point automatic locking retractor seatbelts shall be installed on the bench with three additional lower receivers, set up for use with sit-up or stretcher patients."

<u>Bidder Question:</u> At 68"W, the curbside bench is wide enough to accommodate three seatbelts. Would it be acceptable to installed three sets of two-point automatic locking retractor seatbelts?

<u>Purchaser Response:</u> Three sets of two point automatic locking seatbelts are desired.

93 7.5.15.h

Cabinet #13 Seat Bench with Storage Area

"One (1) 2 quart sharps container with a mailbox lid and a stainless steel wall-mount bracket shall be installed above the squad bench, at the forward end."

<u>Bidder Question:</u> Our supplier of 2 qt sharps containers stopped carrying this item. Would a taller 5 qt. sharps container with mailbox lid and wall bracket be acceptable?

<u>Purchaser Response:</u> A larger 5 qt sharps container may not be suitable for this location. This item can be discussed at pre construction.

96 7.5.21.g

Cabinet #19

"A custom oxygen bracket for a customer supplied and installed D sized oxygen cylinder shall be installed horizontally on the forward floor of the cabinet facing the compartment door."

<u>Bidder Question:</u> It appears this bracket doesn't have a retention strap to secure the cylinder in the event of a roll-over accident. Would it be acceptable to add one?

<u>Purchaser Response:</u> Adding a retention strap to the cylinder bracket is at the discretion of the Vendor.

95 7.5.18.k

Cabinet #16

"One (1) 120 volt AC GFCI receptacle shall be mounted on the rear wall of this cabinet."

<u>Bidder Question:</u> The power charge bricks from Smithworks take up two receptacle locations:

Is it acceptable to provide two 120 VAC GFCI duplex receptacles?

<u>Purchaser Response:</u> This is an acceptable substitution for the specified item.

106 9.1.1.c

Low Voltage Systems

"The electrical equipment installed by the apparatus manufacturer shall conform to current automotive electrical system standards, the latest Federal DOT standards, and the requirements of the applicable NFPA standards....The wiring and wiring harness and insulation shall be in conformance to applicable SAE and NFPA standards."

<u>Bidder Question:</u> Please clarify which NFPA standards are applicable to this bid?

<u>Purchaser Response:</u> NFPA 1917 Standard for Automotive Ambulances, and NFPA 1911 Standard for the Inspection, Maintenance, Testing, and Retirement of In-Service Emergency Vehicles applies to this bid.

108 9.1.1.k

Low Voltage Systems

"All individual electrical equipment switches shall be mounted on a switch panel mounted in the cab convenient to the operator. For

easy nighttime operation, an integral indicator light shall be provided to indicate when the circuit is energized."

<u>Bidder Question:</u> For some functions, we offer momentary switches for dome attendant lights which don't have integral indicator lights. Are unlit momentary rocker switches acceptable, in addition to lit latching rocker switches?

<u>Purchaser Response:</u> This is an acceptable substitution for the specified item.

107 9.1.1.h

Low Voltage Systems

"There shall be no exposed electrical cabling, harnesses, or terminal connections located in compartments, unless they are enclosed in an electrical junction box or covered with a removable electrical panel."

<u>Bidder Question:</u> Is it acceptable for the following electrical cables to be left uncovered?

- -Battery cables
- -Door lock cables between door and doorframe
- -electric oxygen transducer cable
- -Compartment # prewire

<u>Purchaser Response:</u> The Vendor shall make every effort possible to eliminate exposed wiring, cabling, harnesses etc. It is understood that there will be some circumstances where this is unavoidable however all exposed wiring shall run directly to its necessary location and be routed in such a way that it minimizes exposure to damage.

107 9.1.1.j

Low Voltage Systems

"Holes made in the roof shall be caulked with silicone."

<u>Bidder Question:</u> To comply with Sherwin William's paint warranty requirements, we use Sikaflex 221-A polyurethane as a sealant. Is this acceptable?

<u>Purchaser Response:</u> This is an acceptable substitution for the specified item.

111 9.2.4.a

Attendant Control Panel

"A set of six (6) switches shall be installed and located at the attendant control panel located in the action area Cabinet #5. The panel shall include the switches as follows.

☐ *Dome Light Hi-Off-Low*

<u>Bidder Question:</u> "Hi-Off-LO" indicates to us three-position latching switches ("up" position is high, middle is off, "down" position is low). The last ambulance we built for Marysville FD had

momentary switches in the Action Area and driver's console; is momentary switching acceptable for this ambulance?

<u>Purchaser Response:</u> This is an acceptable substitution for the specified item.

112 9.3.2.c

Warning Light Switching

"Switches wired through the Master Warning switch shall include..."

<u>Bidder Question:</u> Is a switch on the driver's console labeled "EMERG. MASTER" acceptable as the master warning switch?

<u>Purchaser Response:</u> This is an acceptable substitution for the specified item.

113 9.3.4.a-b

Alternating Headlights

"The chassis high beam headlights shall alternately flash and shall be controlled by a switch mounted inside the cab within easy reach of the driver.

The alternating headlights shall automatically be switched off in when the transmission is placed into park or the parking brake is set."

<u>Bidder Question:</u> Due to changes by made ford to their OEM wiring, we can no longer modify E-Series headlights flash in an alternating pattern. Would it be acceptable to configure the M7 Clear flashers on the grille to flash in a wig-wag pattern instead?

<u>Purchaser Response:</u> This is an acceptable substitution for the specified item.

123 9.11.1.b

Cameras

"One (1) exterior camera shall be mounted above the rear passage doors providing a clear field of vision of the rear of the apparatus. A protective shroud shall be installed over the system to protect the camera against damage."

<u>Bidder Question:</u> Is a CabCam #A-ASC635M surface-mounted camera with automatic shutter, automatic heater with adapter cable and Rostra 7.3" rearview mirror/monitor acceptable?

<u>Purchaser Response:</u> This is an acceptable substitution for the specified item.

126 9.12.3.a

Battery Charger/Inverter

"A combination inverter/battery charger shall be installed. The installed inverter charger shall be a 1000-watt inverter with integral 50-amp battery charger."

<u>Bidder Question:</u> Would a Samlex #EVO1212F-HW 1200 watt pure sine wave inverter with 60 amp battery charger and -4 to 140°F operating temperature range be acceptable?

<u>Purchaser Response:</u> This is an acceptable substitution for the specified item.

*************END***********