



**City of Racine, Wisconsin**  
**AGENDA BRIEFING MEMORADUM**

**AGENDA DATE:** July 25, 2018

**SUBJECT:** Bids results for Official Notice #9-2018

**PREPARED BY:** Kathryn Kasper, Purchasing Agent and Fire Chief Hansen

**SUMMARY:**

Requesting permission to appear before Public Works & Services to discuss the results of Official Notice #9-2018, Request for Proposal – Architectural and Engineering Services for City of Racine Fire Station 6. The proposals were opened on June 27, 2018.

**PROJECT BACKGROUND & ANALYSIS:**

The Request for Proposals technique is frequently used by the City when seeking services as opposed to bidding for goods or when price is not the major determining factor in a purchase. We received five responses from fully qualified firms. The responses were read and evaluated according the criteria outlined in the RFP by Chief Hansen, DC Mark Polzin, Bill Miller and Tom Eeg.

Constructing a replacement Fire Station 6 has been in the CIP plan since 2010. The existing fire station was built on the original site of the horse drawn era fire station. Since 1906, the city has significantly improved its infrastructure and we now have overlapping areas of fire and EMS coverage where the existing Station 6 is located.

Moving and constructing new Station 6 near the intersection of Durand Avenue and Memorial Drive will provide coverage in areas where we have existing coverage gaps and just as important will provide quick access to the railroad bridge at Durand Avenue and Sheridan Road. Since the Pleasant Prairie Power Plant has been decommissioned, there has been a significant increase in coal trains traveling through Racine and at times street level railroad crossings take up to 16 minutes for a train to clear.

As we planned for this station, we took into account delays in emergency responses due to blocked railroad crossings and the changing demographics of Racine. The south side of the city has a rapidly aging population which will require more emergency medical responses for issues such as heart attacks, strokes, diabetic emergencies, falls, slips, and trips. This south side aging population is both east and west of the Union Pacific railroad tracks. The new Fire Station 6 will continue to house an ambulance which responds to medical emergencies in the area.

Appropriate placement of Fire Station 6 is a long term commitment to the citizens of Racine. We cannot simply look at our emergency response patterns today but must look at what we anticipate those response plans will look like in 10, 20, 30 and even 50 years down the road. Like with every new fire station the building is expected to provide service for 50 to 75 years. Our growth as a community will continue to be on the south side of Racine and making this project even more valuable.

Approving the hiring of an architectural firm at this time will allow us to design a station with appropriate square footage which can then be utilized to properly place the new fire station. The Case-Harmon Park site would have been ideal, but is not an option for the fire department. As we continue to look at other options, a fire station design is needed to select other site options for consideration this year. Hiring the architectural firm at this time, will assist in the city moving this project forward.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

Based on the proposals received, I am requesting to be authorized to negotiate and contract with FGM Architects for the provision of architects as associated with construction services for a fee structure of 6% of the total construction cost.

**FISCAL NOTE:**

Funds for this service are available in account 45030 57200