

**Purchasing Department**

**Kathryn Kasper**  
Purchasing Agent



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14-10096

Honorable Mayor John Dickert and the  
Members of the Common Council  
730 Washington Avenue  
Racine, WI 53403

April 24, 2014

Ladies and Gentlemen:

This communication is informational only regarding the purchase of a wheel mounted snow thrower in the interest of transparency in our procurement process.

In the 2014 budget, there were monies allocated for the purchase of a wheel mounted snow thrower. DPW staff researched and recommended the purchase of a Snogo MP3D snow thrower. Please see attached recommendation memo from Nick Becker, Fleet Manager, for specific reasons that this brand and model were chosen.

This item is available for purchase through the State of Minnesota through their Cooperative Purchasing Venture of which the City of Racine is a member. Because all items available through the Cooperative Purchasing Venture have been through a competitive bid process, we will proceed with the purchase of the Snogo Model MP3D snow thrower through the State of Minnesota contract without our own formal bid process.

Funds are available for this purchase in account 944.630.5040

**Recommendation:** Receive and file

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kathryn Kasper', is written over a horizontal line.

Kathryn Kasper  
Purchasing Agent

Cc: Mark Yehlen  
Tom Eeg  
Nicholas Becker



**CITY OF RACINE**  
**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**  
**EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE DIVISION**

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**MEMO**

TO: Kathy Kasper

CC: Tom Eeg  
Mark Yehlen  
Bill Folstrom

FROM: Nick Becker  
DPW Equipment Maintenance Division

RE: Snow Thrower Recommendation

DATE: April 17, 2014

The 2014 budget includes the purchase of a wheel loader mounted snow thrower. I have evaluated four models along with Bill Folstrom. The snow throwers we considered are the Snowblast model M-8000 MD, Snowcrete Model 842SI, Snogo model MP3D and the Larue model D50.

All of these machines are available for purchase through the Minnesota State contract, which the City has used previously to purchase equipment. After a thorough evaluation process it is our recommendation that the City purchases the Snogo model MP3D. Our justifications for this recommendation are list below.

The City currently owns both the Snowblast and Snowcrete snow throwers. These models use a single stage, dual helical fan design. The Snogo and Larue use a two stage auger and impeller design, similar to a residential snow blower. We observed the Larue demonstration at our lakefront and we also visited the City of Burlington to see the Snogo perform. After seeing these two demonstrations, it was determined that the auger style snow throwers were a better design for our application.

As part of this acquisition, we will be trading in two snow throwers to purchase one. Since we will be operating one less snow thrower, servicing and parts availability will be critical to reduce downtime. The Snogo is built in New Berlin, WI and the Larue is built in Quebec, Canada. Having Snogo parts readily available will be a great benefit in clearing our city streets in a timely manner should a breakdown occur.

There is also a serviceability advantage of the Snogo in that it is equipped with a Cummins engine. We already have Cummins diagnostic software and our technicians are very familiar with Cummins engines. The Larue has a Caterpillar engine that we do not have as much experience with. Lastly, the Snogo has a more compact design. This allows for greater visibility and maneuverability for the operator in our City streets.

I have personally spoken to several municipalities who own the Snogo machines and all would recommend purchasing this machine. Bill and I also toured the Snogo manufacturing plant in New Berlin to see the production facilities and process. I'm confident they are built to handle the rigors of our snow removal operations.

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I believe it is in the best interest of the City of Racine to purchase a machine that is best suited for our operational needs. After all factors were considered, we have determined that the Snogo model MP3D is that machine. Funds are available for this purchase in account 944.630.5040

Should you have any questions or concerns with this recommendation please feel free to contact me.