



CITY OF HAMILTON

HAMILTON EMERGENCY SERVICES
Emergency Medical Services

TO: Chair and Members Emergency & Community Services Committee	WARD(S) AFFECTED: CITY WIDE
COMMITTEE DATE: June 11, 2012	
SUBJECT/REPORT NO: Standardization of Paramedic, Firefighter and Public Access Defibrillators (HES12011) (City Wide)	
SUBMITTED BY: Brent Browett Director, Emergency Medical Services Paramedic Chief Hamilton Emergency Services	PREPARED BY: Justin Pyke (905) 546-2424 ext 7743 Blaine Lucas (905) 546-2424 ext 7739
SIGNATURE:	

RECOMMENDATION

- (a) That staff be authorized to extend the period for investigation of the capabilities of new electrocardiogram monitor defibrillators and public access defibrillators as directed in Report HES08013 (August 27, 2008) as necessary, to June 30, 2014;
- (b) That the Director/Chief of Hamilton Emergency Medical Services, or his designate, be authorized and directed to continue purchasing defibrillators for paramedic and firefighter use from Zoll Medical Corporation, as necessary, until June 30, 2014;
- (c) That staff be authorized to continue purchasing public access defibrillator units (AEDs) and related accessories through the authorized distributor as identified by Zoll Medical Canada until June 30, 2014;

- (d) That the Director/Chief of Hamilton Emergency Medical Services, or his designate, be authorized and directed to negotiate and execute a new pricing agreement in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor to cover the period from now until June 30, 2014 with Zoll Medical Canada which will include pricing for defibrillators and related accessories, supplies, replacement parts and maintenance;
- (e) That the Outstanding Business List Item D, respecting the Electrocardiogram Monitor Defibrillator and Public Access Defibrillator Manufacturers – Competitive Process, be considered complete and removed from the Emergency and Community Services Committee Outstanding Business List.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Hamilton Emergency Services (HES) is currently using electrocardiogram monitor defibrillator units and is coordinating the city-wide public access defibrillator program using automated defibrillation units manufactured by Zoll Medical Canada.

A previous report to the Chair and Members of the Emergency and Community Services Committee (HES08013, August 27, 2008) directed the standardization of these units to achieve economies in scale and effectively manage the program.

The report also directed staff to “investigate, prior to the end of 2012, the capabilities of other electrocardiogram monitor defibrillator and public access defibrillator manufacturers to determine if a competitive process would be appropriate, at that time”. The recommendation to conduct the review in 2012 was based on expected replacement of the majority of the units in 2013. HES is now requesting to extend the standardization and the investigation of other defibrillators into 2014 to facilitate the replacement decisions and related process being deferred until 2014.

With respect to accessories and equipment related to defibrillators and AEDs, Council has previously approved the City to participate in the MedBuy purchasing cooperative. Where overlap exists with items available through the MedBuy purchasing agreement the City will at its discretion purchase from the contract which offers the greatest economic benefit.

Alternatives for Consideration – Not Applicable

FINANCIAL / STAFFING / LEGAL IMPLICATIONS (for Recommendation(s) only)

Financial:

Funding for the purchase of monitor/defibrillators has been planned for and the funds in capital projects will be sufficient to cover the costs at the time of purchase. Extension of the period of investigation will not negatively impact available funds for the purchase.

Staffing:

There are no staffing implications.

Legal:

There are no legal implications.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND (Chronology of events)

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

The City of Hamilton Purchasing Policy #14, Section 4.14 - Policy for Standardization applies.

The recommendations contained within this report are keeping to the spirit of this provision.

RELEVANT CONSULTATION

Dr. Michael Shuster, Municipal Medical Advisor

Lorraine Paddon, Business Administrator, HES, Finance & Administration

Adriana Byrne, Senior Procurement Specialist, Financial Services, Corporate Services

Karen Roche, Assistant Deputy Chief, HES Fire

ANALYSIS / RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

(include Performance Measurement/Benchmarking Data, if applicable)

The rationale for requesting the extension at this stage is that the market information indicates that at least one manufacturer is preparing to make new devices available which would contain substantial enhancements. The additional time is required to determine if this and other manufacturers receive Health Canada approval for the next generation of technology allowing HES to review the widest range of available devices to ensure that HES can make the best decision for the taxpayer.

In addition, during the past four (4) years the HES experience has been that the paramedic defibrillators and the city-wide public access defibrillators have been effectively maintained and this performance is expected to continue during 2013.

ALTERNATIVES FOR CONSIDERATION

(include Financial, Staffing, Legal and Policy Implications and pros and cons for each alternative)

CORPORATE STRATEGIC PLAN (Linkage to Desired End Results)

Focus Areas: 1. Skilled, Innovative and Respectful Organization, 2. Financial Sustainability, 3. Intergovernmental Relationships, 4. Growing Our Economy, 5. Social Development, 6. Environmental Stewardship, 7. Healthy Community

Skilled, Innovative & Respectful Organization

- ◆ A culture of excellence
- ◆ More innovation, greater teamwork, better client focus
- ◆ Opportunity for employee input in management decision making

Financial Sustainability

- ◆ Financially Sustainable City by 2020
- ◆ Effective and sustainable Growth Management
- ◆ Delivery of municipal services and management capital assets/liabilities in a sustainable, innovative and cost effective manner

APPENDICES / SCHEDULES