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## CITY OF KELOWNA FIRE DEPARTMENT

# MEMORANDUM

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**Date:** June 07, 2005  
**File No.:** 1280-01  
**To:** RON BORN, CITY MANAGER  
**From:** FIRE CHIEF  
**Subject:** PURCHASE OF A 1250 GPM FIRE ENGINE

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### **Recommendation:**

THAT Council approve the purchase of a 1250 GPM Fire Engine and Equipment for \$350,000;

AND THAT the 2005 Financial Plan be amended to provide for the purchase with funding from the Fire Equipment Replacement Reserve.

### **Background:**

The 10 year capital plan calls for the replacement of an existing Mack Pumper in 2006. The proposed replacement cost was \$500,000 for a conventional fire engine. Earlier this year, the fire truck that was to be replaced was involved in a motor vehicle accident. ICBC has determined that the pumper will be "written off" and that the City would receive approximately \$30,000 as a pay out. This particular unit needs to be replaced as soon as possible.

Before recommending a replacement unit as originally proposed in our 10 year capital plan (at the current cost of \$500,000), we re-evaluated and re-wrote our original capital plan, and the principles of vehicle deployment.

Under our previous system, we purchased vehicles that could be inter-changeable or used at almost all fire stations. This is no longer practical considering that Enterprise and Rutland require engines with small ladders (telesquirts). Mission requires a 4-wheel drive engine and South-East Kelowna requires a 4-wheel drive unit with a 1000 gallon water tank. In other words, we now purchase fire engines to suit the specific needs of the area that they serve. It is no longer practical to rotate engines from one hall to another.

The down side of this approach is that an engine purchased for a specific fire station will remain at that station for its entire term, rather than be moved to a station with less call volume as the unit ages. The positive side is that units purchased for rural stations such as South-East Kelowna, McKinley and now Glenmore, will be less costly. When considering call volume, types of calls and travel distance per year, we are able to recommend purchasing more conventional and generic types of units rather than the costly custom built engines, that we require in the busier more highly populated areas.

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1250 GPM Fire Engine

As a result, we have decided that this replacement unit should be purchased specifically for Station 8 (Glenmore), at a cost of \$350,000.

Finance Services has confirmed that funding is available for this purchase.

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GERRY ZIMMERMAN

GZ/ELD

CC: R. Mattiussi, Director Planning & Corporate Services  
K. Grayston, Financial Planning Manager