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# The Regional Municipality of Durham Report

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To: Health & Social Services Committee  
From: Commissioner & Medical Officer of Health  
Report: #2023-MOH-1  
Date: January 12, 2023

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**Subject:**

Region of Durham Paramedic Services Ambulance Vehicle Purchases and Standardization

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**Recommendation:**

That the Health & Social Services Committee recommends to Regional Council:

- A) The Demers Ambulances Type III Mystere MX164A or replacement model be maintained as the standard for the Region of Durham Paramedic Services (RDPS) for a period of five (5) years; and
  - B) That authorization be granted to award a sole source agreement to Demers Ambulances for a period of five (5) years, effective January 1, 2023 for the purchase of new ambulances and ongoing parts, pending approval of the Paramedic Services Business Plans & Budgets.
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**Report:**

**1. Purpose**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to obtain approval to maintain the Demers Ambulances Type III Mystere MX164A or replacement model as the standard for RDPS and proceed with the sole source purchase of the ambulances for the five-year period.

**2. Background**

- 2.1 All ambulances purchased for use by RDPS must be compliant with the current *Ontario Provincial Land Ambulance and Emergency Response Vehicle Standard (Version 5.0, September 28, 2012 or as amended)*. Currently only one approved vendor is available for the Province of Ontario.

- 2.2 Mechanical preventative maintenance and repair operations on all ambulances are completed by the Works Department, complemented as necessary by local community maintenance and repair facilities. RDPS will realize parts and repair services efficiencies and expertise through the deployment of a consistent ambulance conversion platform.
- 2.3 All Works Department and local community maintenance and repair facility personnel, performing mechanical preventative maintenance and repair operations on RDPS ambulances, have been specifically trained and certified by Demers Ambulances to perform such maintenance and repair duties on the Demers ambulance conversion platform.
- 2.4 All forty-seven (47) ambulances currently in the fleet have been manufactured and supplied by Demers Ambulances, allowing the equipment storage in, and configuration of, the patient care compartment to be standardized by RDPS, to the extent possible, throughout the fleet for risk management and clinical care purposes.

### **3. Previous Reports and Decisions**

- 3.1 Report #2019-MOH-5, approved by Regional Council September 25, 2019, authorized:
  - a. That the Demers Ambulances Type III Mystere MX164A ambulance with the PRAN AVL system be adopted as the standard for RDPS for a period of three (3) years effective January 1, 2020; and
  - b. That authorization be granted to award a single source agreement to Demers Ambulances for a period of three (3) years effective January 1, 2020 for the purchase of new ambulances and ongoing parts, pending the approval of the Paramedic Services Business Plans & Budgets.

### **4. Financial Implications**

- 4.1 Section 7.2 of the Region's Purchasing By-law #16-2020, permits the acquisition of goods and services through sole source negotiations under specific circumstances outlined in Appendix C of the By-law. Section 1.1 of Appendix "C" permits negotiations where the goods or services can be supplied only by a particular supplier, to ensure compatibility with existing goods, or to maintain specialized goods that must be maintained by the manufacturer of those goods or its representative.
- 4.2 Financing for the acquisition of ambulances from Demers Ambulances will be included in the Paramedic Services Business Plans & Budgets submission.

**5. Relationship to Strategic Plan**

- 5.1 This report aligns with/addresses the following strategic goal and priority in the Durham Region Strategic Plan:
- a. Goal 5: Service Excellence: Optimize resources and partnerships to deliver exceptional quality services and value.

**6. Conclusion**

- 6.1 It is recommended that the Demers Ambulances Type III Mystere MX164A or replacement model be maintained as the standard for the RDPS for a period of five (5) years.
- 6.2 Further, it is recommended that authorization be granted to enter into an agreement with Demers Ambulances for a period of five (5) years and negotiate the single source purchase of ambulances, pending approval of the Paramedic Services Business Plans & Budgets.
- 6.3 This report has been reviewed by the Finance Department and the Commissioner of Finance concurs with the recommendations.

Respectfully submitted,

Original signed by

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R.J. Kyle, BSc, MD, MHSc, CCFP, FRCPC, FACPM  
Commissioner & Medical Officer of Health

Recommended for Presentation to Committee

Original signed by

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Elaine C. Baxter-Trahair  
Chief Administrative Officer