



Administrative Report

To: Warden MacDonald and Members of Essex County Council

From: Justin Lammers
Chief, Essex-Windsor Emergency Medical Services

Date: Wednesday, September 18, 2024

Subject: 2025 Pre-Budget Stretcher Procurement Approval

Report #: 2024-0918-EMS-R09-JL

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide Essex County Council with information and to seek approval for the 2025 pre-budget order of forty-two (42) PowerPro XT Stretchers to replace the current stretchers that are scheduled for replacement in 2025. The delivery of the new stretchers is anticipated to be in the second quarter of 2025.

Background

Essex Windsor EMS currently operates a fleet of 42 ambulances, all equipped with Stryker PowerPro XT Stretchers. These stretchers are scheduled to reach the end of their lifecycle in 2025. The hydraulic Stryker PowerPro XT Stretchers were previously integrated into the fleet to enhance patient and paramedic safety, as well as complying with Ministry of Health standards.

In addition to the stretchers, Essex Windsor EMS ambulances are outfitted with the Stryker Power-LOAD system, a powered cot fastener system that supports stretchers during the loading and unloading process. This system significantly reduces the risk of physical injuries to the paramedic staff by eliminating the need for manual lifting. As the Power-LOAD system is exclusively compatible with Stryker stretchers, Essex Windsor EMS must procure stretchers directly from Stryker to maintain seamless compatibility, ensuring a smooth transition during the upcoming replacement process.

Discussion

Stryker currently offers two powered stretcher models: the PowerPro XT and its successor, the PowerPro 2. Both models are fully compatible with the Power-LOAD cot fastener system installed in the Essex Windsor EMS

ambulance fleet. Stryker has recently announced that the PowerPro XT will be discontinued, with sales of this model ending on October 31, 2024.

Essex Windsor EMS conducted a financial analysis comparing the two models. The total purchase price for the PowerPro XT is \$1,336,482, while the PowerPro 2 comes at a higher cost of \$1,647,140. Essex Windsor EMS is satisfied with the performance of the PowerPro XT and by going with this model, we will realize a total cost savings of \$310,658.

To proceed with the recommended procurement of the PowerPro XT stretchers, Essex Windsor EMS must secure 2025 pre-budget approval before the October 31, 2024, ordering deadline. By obtaining approval and proceeding with procurement, we can replace our aging stretchers as scheduled, thereby upholding the high standards of operational efficiency, safety, and cost-effectiveness that are critical to our service.

Financial Implications

Based on the discussion above, the 2025 Budget will include the proposed purchase of the following:

Name of Asset	Quoted Cost per Unit (HST not included)	# of Units	Total Cost
Stryker PowerPro XT	\$31,821	42	\$1,336,482

The cost of the stretchers, totaling \$1,336,482, will be covered through a combination of EMS Equipment reserves and levy dollars. Of this, \$1,073,934 is available in reserves specifically designated for the replacement of the stretchers, with the remaining amount of \$262,548 to be funded through the levy. The levy-funded portion of the cost would be split between the City and County in year one (2025) with the provincial share being funded in 2026. The net levy increase for the County related to stretchers in 2025 will amount to \$131,274.

Consultations

Kelli Schmidt, Financial Analyst
Janey Murphy, Procurement Officer

Strategic Plan Alignment

Working as Team Essex County	Growing as Leaders in Public Service Excellence	Building a Regional Powerhouse
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Scaling Sustainable Services through Innovation <input type="checkbox"/> Focusing “Team Essex County” for Results <input type="checkbox"/> Advocating for Essex County’s Fair Share 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Being an Employer with Impact <input type="checkbox"/> A Government Working for the People <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Promoting Transparency and Awareness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Providing Reliable Infrastructure for Partners <input type="checkbox"/> Supporting Dynamic and Thriving Communities Across the County <input type="checkbox"/> Harmonizing Action for Growth <input type="checkbox"/> Advancing Truth and Reconciliation

Recommendation

That Essex County Council grant pre-budget approval for Essex Windsor EMS to proceed with the ordering of 42 PowerPro XT stretchers, with \$1,073,934 funded from EMS equipment reserves and \$131,274 funded through the 2025 Budget.

Approvals

Respectfully Submitted,
Justin Lammers

Justin Lammers, Chief, Essex-Windsor Emergency Medical Services

Concurred With,
Melissa Ryan

Melissa Ryan, CPA, Director, Financial Services/Treasurer

Respectfully Submitted,

Justin Lammers

Justin Lammers, Chief, Essex-Windsor Emergency Medical Services

Concurred With,

Sandra Zwiers

Sandra Zwiers, MAcc, CPA, CA, Chief Administrative Officer

Appendix	Title
N/A	N/A