

Automated External Defibrillator (AED) on Transit- Non-Competitive Purchase

Presented To:	Community and Emergency Services Committee
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Type:	Managers' Reports
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Recommended by:	General Manager of Community Development

Report Summary

This report provides a recommendation for a non-competitive single source purchase of seventy-four (74) Automated External Defibrillators (AED's) as part of the 2024-2027 capital budget program to deploy public access defibrillators on public transit.

Resolution

THAT the City of Greater Sudbury approves a non-competitive single source purchase agreement with AED4Life for the purchase of seventy-four Automated External Defibrillators, and associated equipment, as outlined in the report entitled "Automated External Defibrillator (AED) on Transit- Non-Competitive Purchase" from the General Manager of Community Development, presented at the Community and Emergency Services Committee meeting on February 10th, 2025.

Relationship to the Strategic Plan, Health Impact Assessment and Climate Action Plans

This report describes work recommended to implement the Transit Action Plan and continue efforts to expand ridership through innovative and responsive system improvements, in alignment with the Asset Management and Service Excellence objective, and goal 1.5 "Demonstrate Innovation and Cost-Effective Service Delivery".

Further relationship is noted in the Housing objective, and goal 4.3 "Develop and Promote Solutions to Support Existing Housing Choices" and developing our capacity to be an age friendly community by providing services to keep people in their homes, like community paramedicine programs, and supporting equitable access to transportation.

Finally, this work aligns with the objective to Create a Healthier and more Vibrant Community through goal 5.1 "Advance Population Health Agenda" through the goal to deliver City-led goals from Population Health Call to Action 2018-2028, including implementing the Age-Friendly Strategy and ensuring accessibility, which specifically speaks to Calls to Action of Age Friendly Strategy (access to public spaces and accessible transportation and recreation) and Healthy Streets (increase transit ridership).

Within the Low-Carbon Transportation Strategy Sector of the Community Energy & Emissions Plan, this report aligns with Goal 7, to enhance transit services to enhance transit mode share to 25% by 2050.

Financial Implications

The budget to purchase Automated External Defibrillators is part of the 2024-2027 Capital Budget; within this project, the City of Greater Sudbury has allocated \$336,102 for the procurement of AEDs and associated equipment.

Background

The Transit Action Plan (TAP) was presented to Council on February 12, 2019; in addition to immediate route structure changes implemented in August 2019, resolution CC2019-45 directed staff to conduct the planning required to undertake supporting infrastructure improvements.

The City of Greater Sudbury 2019-2027 Strategic Plan commits to implementing the TAP and to continue efforts to expand ridership through innovative and responsive system improvements. Across a variety of areas of engagement within the TAP, transit system safety was flagged as an opportunity for improvement; further to programs related to Municipal Law Enforcement Officers, on-board and at-hub cameras, Bus Operator Training and policy development, the deployment of AEDs on transit ensures customer, staff and community safety, by way of ensuring the availability of life saving equipment for any event of sudden cardiac medical emergency.

Through the 2024-2025 Budget, the City of Greater Sudbury approved a four (4) year project to deploy AEDs on GOVA conventional and specialized buses. With deployment occurring between 2024 and 2027 capital budget, the total budget program cost is \$336,102.

Capital Program/Project Costs	
Year	Total Funding Amount
2024	\$90,838
2025	\$90,838
2026	\$86,296
2027	\$68,129

Public Access Defibrillators in the Community

The City of Greater Sudbury provides a Public Access Defibrillator (PAD) program at City owned leisure sites. Programs and policies work to ensure that AEDs are immediately available for use by community members in the event of a cardiac medical emergency. The City of Greater Sudbury currently operates almost 200 public access defibrillators across various public sites including workplaces, arenas, baseball fields, schools, and libraries. In 2024, City of Greater Sudbury Paramedic Services responded to 387 medical cardiac arrest emergencies.

The goal of the PAD program for the City of Greater Sudbury is supported by an objective for a healthier community, as reflected in the 2019-2027 City of Greater Sudbury Strategic Plan. Collectively, there is an overarching goal to host a defibrillator in every public and private building, at every facility and event; with increased placement of units, there is a corresponding intent to raise public awareness so residents can more confidently recognize the signs of cardiac arrest and may be more comfortable to respond.

Ridership on GOVA Transit was approximately 6.2 million in 2024, an 18% increase from 2023, which was the highest recorded ridership. GOVA Plus ridership was approximately 114,269 in 2024, which is an 8% increase from 2023. With approximately 20,000 passengers onboard a GOVA vehicle on any given day, the potential for a sudden cardiac event to occur on a vehicle, or at a Hub, is high. Where emergency treatment to an event includes cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and defibrillation, and survival rates fall by 7-10% for every minute that passes without defibrillation, the presence of an AED on transit increases the rate of survival.

Product Standardization

On November 15, 2023, through resolution FA2023-64, the City of Greater Sudbury approved a single source contract with Zoll Medical Canada Inc., for a five (5) year period, that supports Fire and Paramedic Services with respect to procurement of standardized defibrillators and consumables. In addition to efficiencies related to staff training, improved patient and paramedic safety related to mounting, as well as improvements in inventory logistics and restocking.

A contract between the City of Greater Sudbury and ZOLL Medical Canada Inc. is listed under contract FES24-139; the contract is for a five (5) year period, until August 21, 2029. The agreement allows for standardized product and pricing associated with the provision of defibrillators and associated consumables, such as electrodes, sensors, battery packs, and carrying case(s). The contract is applicable only for products used by Paramedic and Fire Services and does not cover Public Access Defibrillators.

Where Paramedic and Fire Services use ZOLL AEDs, it is recommended that Transit utilize the same product; this standardization supports efficiencies related to cost, staff training and emergency service response. Where ZOLL Medical Canada Inc. is unable to sell directly to transit outside of the existing contract, staff were referred to AED4Life. With pricing of \$1,985.94 per unit that aligns with budget, efficiencies that ensure savings and sustainability for the project, and within the authority of By-Law 2014-1 Section 22(1)(b)(i), staff recommend a non-competitive purchase.

Next Steps

In receipt of support from Council, Transit staff will immediately launch project steps that will see procurement of AEDs for the first phase of deployment onto conventional buses, coupled with necessary staff training, and a comprehensive communication and engagement plan that ensures awareness for the additional units in the community.

Resources Cited

Greater Sudbury Transit Action Plan- Better Routes. Better Schedules. Better Service
February 12, 2019

<https://pub-greatersudbury.escribemeetings.com/filestream.ashx?documentid=3959>

Public Access Defibrillation Program Expansion at City Owned Leisure Sites
August 10, 2022

[Public Access Defibrillation Program Expansion at City Owned Leisure Sites \(escribemeetings.com\)](https://pub-greatersudbury.escribemeetings.com/Meeting.aspx?Id=0d638fe4-8692-4f09-a3ea-c1865b892962&lang=English&Agenda=Agenda&Item=23&Tab=attachments)

Standardization of Paramedic Services Cardiac Monitor Defibrillators
November 15, 2023

<https://pub-greatersudbury.escribemeetings.com/Meeting.aspx?Id=0d638fe4-8692-4f09-a3ea-c1865b892962&lang=English&Agenda=Agenda&Item=23&Tab=attachments>