


<p align="center"><b>COUNCIL ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT</b>          Department: Foothills Fire Department</p> <p><b>TITLE: IPADS</b></p>		
<p><b>Author: Rick Saulnier – Director of Community and Emergency Services</b></p> <p><b>Presenter:</b> Rick Saulnier</p>	<p><b>DATE: November 13, 2024</b></p>	
<p><b>ATTACHMENTS:</b></p>		

**Purpose:**

**To consider the purchase of iPads to accommodate First Due software operational field requirements.**

First Due is a software solution that meets the needs of our department as we move forward. The program will help manage pre-incident planning, occupancy management, incident reporting, fire investigations, fire inspections, inventory management, mapping, staff scheduling, invoicing, fire prevention, personnel management, alerting, and training records. First Due is a web-based system, which means that you will not need to download any software, and customers can access the program through a web browser. First Due is designed to be mobile-responsive and is accessible on mobile devices. First Due also provides a specialized mobile application that is compatible with all versions of the respective operating systems that are currently supported.

**Background**

There are a wide variety of technology-based solutions available to meet the public safety problems that have plagued fire departments for decades.

It is imperative that we consider utilizing technology in other areas to enhance outcomes. One area where technology has significant potential for improving our jobs is in the effectiveness and efficiency of incident response. Departments can use technology for “behind-the-scenes” functions that will inevitably have a significant impact on the fire ground.

**iPads**

The 2024 capital budget included the purchase of new iPads for the fire department at a total cost of \$12,000. We are, however, asking for an amendment to the 2024 Capital budget, for a total amount of \$37,366.80 for the purchase of these new iPads and supporting equipment.

Okotoks Fire Department is currently using iPads for their application of First Due. They have discovered that when iPads are constantly plugged in, the batteries heat up, expand, and cease to function. The units require cooling to avoid degrading of the batteries due to prolonged charging. To fix this issue, they purchased iPad docking stations with cooling fans. This unknown was not captured in our original quote during the Capital budget process therefore we had not included the docking stations or the installation of these stations in the original pricing. Furthermore, the cost of an iPad has increased \$365.94 per unit and Apple Care has increased by \$9.28 per unit since the original quote. Please note these iPads came recommended by our I.T. department.

**Why not Android or other products?** With other departments moving to First Due, trials continue. When it comes to running the First Due application, Apple reliably outperforms Android devices from an operability, privacy and security standpoint and holds strong future trade back value.

**Price and Amount Break Down**

<b>Station</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Price</b>	<b>Price per Station</b>
Longview	3	\$1,645.42 x 3	\$4,936.26
Heritage Pointe	3 13" iPad Pro Wi-Fi	\$2,037.42 x 3	\$6,112.26
Priddis	2	\$1,645.42 x 2	\$3,290.84
Spruce Meadows	2	\$1,645.42 x 2	\$3,290.84
Blackie	2	\$1,645.42 x 2	\$3,290.84
Cayley	2	\$1,645.42 x 2	\$3,290.84
		<b>Total</b>	<b>\$24,211.88</b>

<b>Extras x 14</b>	<b>Price</b>
Apple Care	\$1,529.92
Apple Pencils	\$480
Prosense Docking Stations and install	\$11,145.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$13,154.92</b>
<b>Project Total</b>	<b>\$37,366.80</b>

Providing firefighters with mobile devices will streamline and digitize a range of manual workflows, from equipment checks and reporting to record-keeping. This technological upgrade improves operational efficiency and responder effectiveness. These devices provide firefighters with critical background information when stationed or docked in vehicles. With immediate access to street maps, building layouts, and hydrant locations before arrival, firefighters can formulate a more structured and effective strategy, ensuring a faster and more coordinated response to incidents.

**Recommendation**

A motion was made by the Fire Board recommending that Council authorize the spending of \$37,366.80 on the procurement of fourteen (14) iPads and supporting equipment.