

NEWS

The Evergreen State College
Olympia, Washington 98505 753-2780

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for further information
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The Evergreen State College (Olympia, Wash.) is seeking bids for conversion of a Ford parcel delivery van into a Medic I emergency vehicle.

The conversion, the first in the Olympia area, will establish a prototype for three substantially identical units to be ordered from the successful bidder of the Evergreen project by the Thurston County Emergency Services Committee.

Evergreen Staff Architect William Knauss said conversion of the delivery van, which has a 12-foot parcel department, represents a trend in the purchase of emergency vehicles.

"Across the country, governmental agencies are tending to convert parcel vans instead of buying the standard, already complete ambulances," he said. "Evergreen's project is the first of its kind in the Pacific Northwest which will meet federal design criteria offered by the U.S. Department of Transportation."

The van, already owned by Evergreen, will be operated by the McLane Fire Department, which services the Cooper Point campus and surrounding areas. Funds for the other three vans, now on order, have been provided by Thurston County taxpayers through a recent bond issue.

The project was designed by Knauss and McLane Fire Chief Charles E. Allison, following guidelines offered in a publication by the U.S. Department of Transportation entitled, "Ambulance Design Criteria," and published in January, 1973.

Bids for the project, which will probably take two months, will be opened May 16 on the Evergreen campus. Interested contractors are invited to contact Arnie Doerkson, Evergreen Purchasing Agent, for plans and specifications.

Dick Nichols, Director
Information Services