

Date: June 24, 2015
To: Board of Directors
From: Neil McFarlane *Neil McFarlane*
Subject: RESOLUTION 15-06-34 OF THE TRI-COUNTY METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT OF OREGON (TRIMET) AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH TAIT NORTH AMERICA INC. FOR MONITORING AND MANAGEMENT OF TRIMET'S MOBILE RADIO NETWORK

1. Purpose of Item

The purpose of this item is to request that the TriMet Board of Directors (“Board”) authorize the General Manager to execute a contract with TAIT North America Inc. (TAIT) for monitoring and management of TriMet’s Mobile Radio Network.

2. Type of Agenda Item

- Initial Contract
- Contract Modification
- Other _____

3. Reason for Board Action

Board approval is required for goods and services contracts obligating TriMet to pay in excess of \$500,000.

4. Type of Action:

- Resolution
- Ordinance 1st Reading
- Ordinance 2nd Reading
- Other _____

5. Background

Prior to 2013 TriMet fixed-route and LIFT buses used a TriMet owned radio network. Due to the limited capacity of this TriMet network, TriMet light rail vehicles and non-revenue support vehicles used the City of Portland’s radio network, for an annual fee of approximately \$300,000. On June 17, 2008, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) issued an order (FCC 47 CFR, Section 90.209.b.5) requiring TriMet to narrow band TriMet’s existing 450 MHZ bus radios, by 2013. TriMet’s owned radio network was technically incapable of being narrowbanded requiring replacement. In December of 2009, the TriMet Board approved a contract with INIT for the replacement of the CAD/AVL (bus dispatch) system and TriMet radio system. INIT delivered the new CAD/AVL and radio

system in March 2013. Adjustments and improvements to the system have been made since then and will continue through 2015. A deliverable of the replacement project was a TriMet owned TAIT P25 private radio network with sufficient capacity for all TriMet operations. This means TriMet no longer requires the use of the City of Portland's radio system for some TriMet operations.

INIT's monitoring and management responsibilities for the radio network portion of the CAD/AVL contract have now expired. Accordingly, staff has developed the proposed contract directly with TAIT, the new radio system equipment supplier, to provide for 24 x 7 monitoring and management of TriMet's new private radio network. The monitoring and management of the network will take place in Houston, Texas and Christchurch, New Zealand, allowing for continuous and constant monitoring. In addition to 24 x 7 monitoring, TAIT will move a radio network engineer to Portland to provide hands on maintenance and management when required. The services provided in this contract are broken down into the following categories:

Managed Services

- Network Device Monitoring
- Network Monitoring
- Incident Management
- Problem Management
- Software Management
- Hardware Management
- Configuration Management

Service Management Functions

- Change Management
- Asset Management
- Capacity Management
- Reporting

Portland Based Site Administrator

- Site Training
- Access to Tait Support Staff
- Access to Tait Tools
- Documenting their work
- Updating existing documentation

6. Procurement Process

This is a sole source contract. TAIT is the manufacturer of the radio equipment that they will be monitoring. Two Network Operations Centers one in Houston, Texas and one in Christchurch, New Zealand specifically designed and built to monitor TAIT Radio Networks, will be used to monitor TriMet's Private Radio Network. Other vendors do not typically monitor and manage other radio vendor networks, or if they do the cost to integrate a different vendor into their monitoring systems is cost prohibitive. In addition, the configuration of the TriMet Radio Network is uniquely designed for transit use and is not a standard land mobile radio implementation. TAIT is intimately familiar with the TriMet configuration.

TriMet requested an independent technical and cost analysis of the TAIT proposal. IBI Group, an international engineering consulting firm, reviewed the TAIT proposal and concluded that TAIT is ideally suited from a technical standpoint to provide monitoring and management of the new radio network, and that the proposed cost was significantly lower than other contracted 24 x 7 managed services operations.

7. Diversity

TAIT's proposal demonstrated good workforce diversity. TAIT North America INC has 76 employees 26 of which are minorities. This includes 2 employees at the highest level of management. There are no subcontracting opportunities.

8. Financial/Budget Impact

The contract is a three-year contract. Payments of \$24,125 will be made monthly. The projected three-year contract amount based on regular monthly invoices and an allowance for on-site services is \$900,000. Funding for these services is budgeted under the Field Operations department in the Operations/Transportation division.

9. Impact if Not Approved

The Board could opt not to approve the contract, or direct staff to conduct a new solicitation. This is not recommended due to the price competitiveness of the proposal and the unique abilities of TAIT to monitor and manage a TAIT Radio Network. Re-solicitation would be unlikely to obtain improved offerings over the proposed contract. Therefore, contract award is the recommended option.

RESOLUTION 15-06-34

RESOLUTION OF THE TRI-COUNTY METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT OF OREGON (TRIMET) AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH TAIT NORTH AMERICA INC. FOR MONITORING AND MANAGEMENT OF TRIMET'S MOBILE RADIO NETWORK

WHEREAS, TriMet has authority under ORS 267.200 to enter into a contract with Tait North America Inc. for monitoring and management of TriMet's Mobile Radio Network ("Contract"); and

WHEREAS, the total amount of the Contract shall exceed \$500,000; and

WHEREAS, the TriMet Board of Directors (Board), by Resolution dated November 25, 2009, adopted a Statement of Policies requiring the Board to approve goods and services contracts obligating TriMet to pay in excess of \$500,000;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That the Contract shall be in conformance with applicable laws.
2. That the General Manager is authorized to execute the Contract.

Dated: June 24, 2015

Presiding Officer

Attest:

Recording Secretary

Approved as to Legal Sufficiency:



Legal Department