METROPOLITAN
TRANSPORTATION
COMMISSION
SERVICE AUTHORITY
FOR FREEWAYS
AND EXPRESSWAYS

Joseph P. Bort MetroCenter
101 Eighth Street
Oakland, CA 94607-4700
TEL 510.817.5700
TDD/TTY 510.817.5769
FAX 510.817.5848
E-MAIL info@mtc.ca.gov
WEB www.mtc.ca.gov

Memorandum

Agenda Item 2b

TO: Operations Committee

DATE: March 7, 2014

FR: Executive Director

W. I.: 6032

RE: Contract – Freeway Service Patrol Automatic Vehicle Locator System: Los Alamos Technical Associate, Inc. (LATA) ($950,000)

This Memorandum requests Committee approval of a six-year, four month contract with an option to extend for an additional five years with Los Alamos Technical Associates, Inc. (LATA) in the amount of $950,000 to develop and integrate a customized Automatic Vehicle Locator (AVL) system for the Freeway Service Patrol (FSP) program.

Background

With its fleet of over 90 tow trucks and almost 200 drivers logging an average of 9,000 assists per month, the FSP program provides quick incident response to keep freeways flowing during peak commute hours. To effectively manage the program's resources and ensure they are being deployed appropriately, program administrators utilize an AVL system that tracks tow truck movements and captures assist data. The current system has been in place since 2007 and the contract with its vendor is due to expire in October 2014. While the system continues to serve its basic purpose, a complete overhaul is necessary to continue fleet management and to incorporate new technological features that have been developed since the system's inception.

Procurement Process

On December 6, 2013, staff released a Request for Proposal (RFP) for consultant services to design and deliver a customized AVL system. The scope of work included: 1) building new operational tools such as automatic alerts of tow operator violations; 2) developing new search and data manipulation tools for assist information; 3) designing and procuring the new in-vehicle system; and 4) integrating the AVL system with the existing computer aided dispatch at the California Highway Patrol. The RFP's scope of work also included ongoing maintenance of the system after deployment and providing as-needed services and upgrades through task orders.

MTC SAFE received two (2) proposals, which were evaluated by a panel comprised of staff from MTC SAFE and Caltrans. The evaluation criteria were; 1) quality of project concept (25%); 2) cost-effectiveness (25%); 3) quality of the work plan (20%); 4) personnel qualifications and performance (20%); 5) communication skills (5%); and 6) non-core (optional) features included in project concept (5%). Both firms submitted responsive bids and were invited to participate in interviews on February 11, 2014 to provide a demonstration and discuss questions from the evaluation panel.

Evaluation Factor (# of points possible)	LATA	AutoReturn
Quality of Project Concept (25)	23	20
Cost-Effectiveness (25)	20	23
Quality of the Work Plan (20)	19	15
Team and Key Personnel Qualifications and Performance (20)	18	17
Communication Skills (5)	5	4
Non-Core Features Included in Project Concept (5)	5	4
Total Score	**90**	**83**
Budget*	$948,315	$739,244

**Budget includes $150,000 for task order work*

The evaluation panel determined LATA to be most advantageous to MTC SAFE based on the scoring above. LATA's work plan and the project concept indicated a good understanding of project requirements and provided a detailed series of steps adapting LATA's baseline system to meet the RFP's specifications. LATA's project concept and product demonstration also showed that its AVL system exceeds the minimum requirements of the RFP in many areas and includes many of its 'non-core' (optional) features. In addition, the LATA project team staff has the qualification of having performed well on an FSP AVL project in Orange County, CA. LATA's FSP knowledge and effective communication of technical details were demonstrated during the interview.

The panel concluded from AutoReturn's interview and project concept that there would be a significant amount of customization to adapt their baseline system to the requirements of the RFP. The AutoReturn work plan did not have enough detail on the features and functions to be added nor did it demonstrate an adequate understanding of FSP operations.

While LATA did not propose the lowest cost, its proposal was superior among all but one of the RFP criteria. The LATA bid was lower than the estimated cost published in the RFP, which was in the mid-range of cost estimates provided by an independent consultant.

Recommendation

Staff recommends that this Committee authorize the Executive Director or his designee to negotiate and enter into a six year, four month contract with an option to extend for additional five years, with Los Alamos Technical Associates, Inc., in an amount not to exceed $950,000, to develop and integrate the FSP AVL system.

Steve Heminger

SH:RR

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REQUEST FOR COMMITTEE APPROVAL

Summary of Proposed Contract

Work Item No.:	6032
Contractor:	Los Alamos Technical Associates, Inc. Albuquerque, NM
Project Title:	Freeway Service Patrol Automatic Vehicle Locator System
Purpose of Project:	Develop and integrate a customized automatic vehicle locator system to facilitate Freeway Service Patrol operations
Brief Scope of Work:	Work with MTC SAFE staff to develop an AVL system with new management tools and reporting functions and integrate system with the California Highway Patrol Computer Aided Dispatch
Project Cost Not to Exceed:	$950,000
Funding Source:	STP
Fiscal Impact:	Funding is included in the MTC SAFE capital program.
Motion by Committee:	That the Executive Director or his designee is authorized to negotiate and enter into a six year, four contract with an option to extend for an additional five years, with Los Alamos Technical Associates, Inc., for the services described above and in the Executive Director's memorandum dated March 7, 2014 and the Chief Financial Officer is directed to set aside funds in the amount of $950,000 for such contract.

Operations Committee: _____
Jake Mackenzie, Chairperson

Approved: Date: March 14, 2014