

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: **AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR CYRIDE AUTOMATIC VEHICLE LOCATOR (AVL)/AUTOMATIC VOICE ANNUNCIATION (AVA) PASSENGER INFORMATION SYSTEM**

BACKGROUND:

CyRide uses an automatic vehicle locator (AVL) service to provide real time bus arrival information to passengers. Passenger information systems such as this have become commonplace with transit systems across the country. CyRide entered into an agreement in 2012 with NextBus to provide AVL information to passengers. The contract for this service ends on June 30, 2019. The NextBus service has been wildly successful and valued by customers, but the hardware installed on the buses has become obsolete. A significant capital investment would be required in 2019 to maintain the existing service. Procuring a new system was determined to be the best way to ensure that CyRide was getting the best value for the dollar.

CyRide has undertaken a separate initiative to provide automatic voice annunciation (AVA) along its routes. CyRide is required to make route announcements to be compliant with ADA regulations. Drivers currently announce route transfer points, but making required announcements takes focus off the road. By adding an AVA system, the existing bus speaker system can automatically announce transfer points with other fixed routes and operators can focus on driving.

Because both systems rely on GPS equipment to provide information to customers, staff has been working to procure both systems through a single request for proposals. An RFP was issued on April 17, 2019, with responses due May 8, 2019. A three-week response time was used to allow an award of contract to be made prior to a firm July 1 grant obligation deadline.

The total project budget is \$950,000 and is largely funded with Iowa DOT 5310 grant allocations. Funding is spread across two years in the Capital Improvement Plan. Since funding is spread out over two years, \$128,503 of the total project funding is not currently in grants. However, it is guaranteed formula funding. Award of the contract will be contingent upon Iowa DOT 5310 contract approval for FY 2020. Contract award will also be subject to concurrence with award by the Iowa DOT Office of Public Transit.

Four companies provided written proposals in response to the RFP. An evaluation committee comprised of three CyRide staff members ranked the responses. The current AVL provider, Cubic NextBus, and another respondent, GMV Syncromatics, were invited to

present on-site, as they had the highest ranked written responses. On-site presentations were evaluated by the same three CyRide staff members. The evaluation results and three-year total cost of the finalist's products were as follows:

Written Proposal Score

	Weight	ETA	Ride Systems	Cubic NextBus	GMV Syncromatics
Fulfilling Technical Requirements	40%	2.00	2.53	3.07	3.47
Key Personnel Experience & Qualifications	15%	0.95	1.05	1.10	1.25
Understanding of the Project	10%	0.57	0.70	0.77	0.90
Cost	30%	0.24	0.30	0.11	0.15
Correct Form and Format	5%	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50
Total Score		4.26	5.08	5.55	6.27

On-Site Presentation Score

	Weight		Cubic NextBus	GMV Syncromatics
Fulfilling Technical Requirements	40%	40%	2.40	3.60
Key Personnel Experience & Qualifications	15%	15%	0.95	1.35
Understanding of the Project	10%	10%	0.63	0.90
Cost	30%	30%	0.23	0.30
Correct Form and Format	5%	5%	0.50	0.50
Total Score			4.71	6.65

Cost Evaluation

	Cubic NextBus	GMV Syncromatics
Year 1 BAFO Cost	\$1,012,912	\$941,730
3-Year Total Cost	\$1,450,401	\$1,146,534

Staff is recommending award to GMV Syncromatics. The recommendation is based on the company's ability to meet the aggressive installation schedule, a thorough review of the hardware to be installed on the buses, experience level of the staff, and three-year total cost. As with any complicated technology implementation, staff anticipates an adjustment period for customers while the transition is made to a new service provider.

Project budget information is listed in the CIP with additional detail provided in the following table.

Funds Available	Dollars
Iowa DOT Administered Federal Section 5310 Funds - 80%	\$ 680,000
CyRide's Capital Budget – 20%	\$ 170,000
Total Federal Project Funds*	\$ 850,000
Additional FY 2019 Local Capital	\$ 100,000
Total Funds Available	\$ 950,000
Project Costs	Dollars
Fixed Route CAD/AVL and Real Time Passenger Information	\$ 471,980
Automatic Voice Annunciator	\$ 356,025
Text Messaging Option	\$ 1,750
Automatic Passenger Counting Interface	\$ 2,475
Spare Parts	\$ 9,800
Annual Service Fee**	\$ 99,700
Total Project Cost + Year 1 Annual Fee	\$ 941,730

*** \$128,503 of the total project funding is not currently approved in grants but is guaranteed formula funding. Grant approval is expected July 1, 2019.**

**** The current AVL provider's annual fee is \$96,170.**

Awarding the AVL/AVA contract to GMV Syncromatics will allow CyRide to continue to provide an information service our passengers have come to rely upon. Installation of the automatic voice annunciation (AVA) portion of the system will allow CyRide to be fully compliant with ADA regulations. The proposed annual operating expense is approximately 4% higher than the current provider annual expense, but it includes \$12,120 in annual operating fees for the annunciator system.

The Transit Board of Trustees approved the award of the AVL and AVA project to GMV Syncromatics at its June 13, 2019 board meeting.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Award contract to GMV Syncromatics of Los Angeles, CA for the proposed amount of \$941,730. This amount includes the first year of operating expense. Award of the contract is contingent upon Iowa DOT 5310 contract approval for FY 2020. Contract award will also be subject to concurrence with award by the Iowa DOT Office of Public Transit.
2. Reject the proposed contract and direct staff to modify the project to reflect Council priorities.

CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Awarding the contract to GMV Syncromatics of Los Angeles, CA will allow CyRide to replace the existing passenger information system that will enable CyRide to automatically announce important route information to passengers with disabilities. The contract award of \$941,730 includes hardware installation and the first year annual service fee.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1 as stated above.