

**Columbus Consolidated Government
Council Meeting Agenda Item**

TO:	Mayor and Councilors
AGENDA SUBJECT:	Traffic Incident Management Services and Towing Services (Annual Contract) – RFP No. 25-0001
INITIATED BY:	Finance Department

It is requested that Council amend Resolution No. 182-25 to authorize the award for Traffic Incident Management Services and Towing Services (Annual Contract) to Griffin and Griffin Towing, Inc. (Columbus, GA) and Cole Towing & Recovery, Inc. (Columbus, GA). The vendors will provide Traffic Incident Management Services (TIMS), which are overseen by Public Safety Departments, and Towing Services for City-owned vehicles and equipment, on an “as needed” rotation basis which aligns with the intended award specified in the RFP. Negotiation is required to ensure pricing to citizens and the City are the same from both vendors per the RFP specifications.

Resolution No. 182-25 is required to be amended because the Evaluation Committee recommended the award to one vendor. However, the award recommendation was not in compliance with the award intent specified in the RFP.

The vendors will provide the following services:

Option 1 (Traffic Incident Management Services)

Vehicular towing and transporting services
Winching/recovering services (such as extracting/up righting vehicles)
Road services (such as tire changes, battery starting etc.)
Vehicular storage services

Option 2 (Towing Services for City vehicles)

Vehicular towing and transporting services
Winching/recovering services (such as extracting/up-righting vehicles)
Road services (such as tire changes, battery starting, etc.)

Such services are awarded in accordance with the stipulations set forth in Paragraph III of the General Specifications of the RFP.

III. AWARD

A. Option 1: It is the intention of the City to contract with multiple qualified offerors to provide TIMS services on a daily rotation basis “as needed”.

B. Option 2: The City reserves the right to award contracts to multiple qualified offerors to provide towing services on a weekly rotation basis for Metra Transit System and on a monthly rotation basis for the Public Works Department “as needed”.

C. Option 1 and Option 2 will be awarded to the vendors receiving the highest evaluation scores for the respective options.

D. In the event of a multiple vendor rotation, it is necessary to ensure citizens are paying the same price for Option 1, and the City is paying the same price for Option 2. Consequently, to participate in a vendor rotation, vendors shall agree to match the best responsive price submitted.

The contract term shall be for five years. The initial fee schedule shall remain fixed for the first two (2) years. Once each calendar year, beginning with the third year and each year thereafter, the Contractors may call for a meeting of the various Public Safety agencies, Purchasing Division representatives, Public Works representative, METRA Transit System representative and the City Manager's Officer (or his designee) to consider fee changes. With approval of a majority of the meeting representatives, the Contractors may increase or decrease fees in accordance with any changes in the Consumer Price Index during the preceding year.

Annual Contract History:

The previous five-year contract was awarded on July 23, 2019 (Resolution No. 207-19) to Griffin and Griffin Towing, Inc. The contract initiated on September 4, 2019, and ran through September 3, 2024. The vendor agreed to extend through September 3, 2025 while the next RFP was advertised and evaluated.

RFP Advertisement and Receipt of Proposals:

RFP specifications were posted on the web pages of the Purchasing Division, the Georgia Procurement Registry and DemandStar on July 19, 2024. This RFP has been advertised, opened and evaluated. Two (2) proposals were received by the due date of August 16, 2024, from the following vendors:

Griffin and Griffin Towing, Inc. (Columbus, GA)
Cole Towing and Recovery, Inc. (Columbus, GA)

Evaluation Committee:

The proposals were reviewed by the Evaluation Committee, which consisted of one voting member from Public Works, one voting member from METRA, one voting member from Columbus Fire & EMS, one voting member from Columbus Police Department and one voting member from the Sheriff's Office.

Serving as alternate voters were one representative from Public Works and one representative from METRA.

Serving as non-voting advisors were one representative from METRA and three representatives from Public Works.

Award Recommendation:

- **Griffin and Griffing Towing, Inc.**
 - Griffin and Griffin has an abundance of experience, a lot of business and adequate employees.
 - The vendor has a solid work history with the City of Columbus. Their staff has many years of combined experience.

- Griffin and Griffin has extensive work history with similar-style government agencies. Their list of clients have been in place for many years, which speaks to their dependability.
- Griffin and Griffin has adequate personnel, equipment and services provided 24-hours a day and 365 days a year.
- **Qualifications/Experience:**
 - Griffin & Griffin Towing, Inc., serves government, commercial, non-profit and private clients with an aggregate of over 200 years of combined experience.
 - The organization's drivers are accustomed to serving an average of 1,000 or more customers monthly.
 - Griffin & Griffin offers eight class A trucks, six class C trucks, one class B truck, one landoll, one traffic control/barricade truck, pneumatic system, motorcycle towing equipment, lockout, jumpstart and tire change equipment.
 - They have a dynamic team of 34, with sufficient office, driver and yard personnel to serve customers 24-hours a day/365 days a year.
- Below are the last three clients for which the contractor has performed similar services, at the time the contractor submitted a proposal:
 - Georgia State Patrol 2013 – Present
 7800 Scenic Heights, Manchester, GA 31816
 Towing, traffic incident management and roadside assistance.
 - Enterprise Rental Car 2014 – Present
 3450 Macon Road, Columbus, GA 31907
 Towing, traffic incident management and roadside assistance.
 - Murray Diesel Service 2013 – Present
 1435 Jacqueline Drive, Columbus, GA 31909
 Towing and roadside assistance.
- **Cole Towing & Recovery, Inc.**
 - Cole Towing & Recovery Service is a local company with eight years of experience.
 - The staff from Cole Towing & Recovery have an extensive work history and the management team all have a strong work history and resumes.
 - The vendor has a history with many similar clients to CCG and has been serving them for several years.
 - The vendor provided documentation that is detailed and cohesive in reporting to both the agency, and the individual, as needed.
- **Qualifications/Experience:**

- Cole Towing & Recovery is a locally owned s-corporation that has been providing professional and safe roadside and “TIMS” services for over 8 years.
- The organization is made up of 30 employees from the Bi-City area.
- Cole Towing and Recovery has a highly-certified and qualified staff that is committed to giving a high level of attention to any incident that may arise.
- Their operators and key personnel are “TRIPS” and “TIMS” nationally certified, and the organization requires monthly hands-on training with licensed instructors.
- Below are the last three clients for which the contractor has performed similar services, at the time the contractor submitted a proposal:
 - Fort Moore Federal TIM Contract 2023 – Present
 6800 Marchant Ave Building 111, Fort Moore, GA 31905
 Towing of all class vehicles, including all government-owned vehicles and private, off-road recoveries, responding in 20-25 minutes and reporting response times. Upright vehicle, road service and customer service.
 - Muscogee County School District Bus Shop 2020 – Present
 5908 Whitesville Road, Columbus, GA 31904
 Towing all light, medium, heavy-duty and equipment for MCSD. Clean up waste from vehicle accident. Accident scene towing. Towing of electric vehicles. Traffic incident management.
 - UPS 2019 – Present
 1343 Belfast Ave, Columbus, GA 31904
 Towing of tractor trailers, box trucks, traffic incident management, recoveries, winch outs and lifts.

The City’s Procurement Ordinance Article 3-110 (Competitive Sealed Proposals for the procurement of Equipment, Supplies and Professional Services) governs the RFP Process. During the RFP process, there is no formal opening due to the possibility of negotiated components of the proposal. In the event City Council does not approve the recommended offeror, no proposal responses or any negotiated components are made public until after the award of the contract. Therefore, the evaluation results and cost information has been submitted to the City Manager in a separate memo for informational purposes.

Towing charges for vehicles of citizens will be billed to the owner of the vehicles. Funding to cover towing services for City vehicles is budgeted each fiscal year for this on-going expense: Various Departments – Auto Parts and Supplies; 6721; General Fund - Police - Motor Transport – Motor Transport - Other Purchased Services, 0101-400-3230-MOTR-6699; Transportation Fund - Transportation FTA – METRA FTA (UMTA) – Vehicle Operation & Maintenance, 0751-610-2400-MFTA-6516.

A RESOLUTION

NO. _____

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING COUNCIL TO AMEND RESOLUTION NO. 182-25 TO AUTHORIZE THE AWARD FOR TRAFFIC INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SERVICES AND TOWING SERVICES (ANNUAL CONTRACT) TO GRIFFIN AND GRIFFIN TOWING, INC. (COLUMBUS, GA) AND COLE TOWING & RECOVERY, INC. (COLUMBUS, GA). THE VENDORS WILL PROVIDE TRAFFIC INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SERVICES (TIMS), WHICH ARE OVERSEEN BY PUBLIC SAFETY DEPARTMENTS, AND TOWING SERVICES FOR CITY-OWNED VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT, ON AN “AS NEEDED” ROTATION BASIS WHICH ALIGNS WITH THE INTENDED AWARD SPECIFIED IN THE RFP. NEGOTIATION IS REQUIRED TO ENSURE PRICING TO CITIZENS AND THE CITY ARE THE SAME FROM BOTH VENDORS PER THE RFP SPECIFICATIONS.

WHEREAS, an RFP was administered (RFP No. 25-0001) and two (2) proposals were received; and,

WHEREAS, the proposals submitted by Griffin and Griffin Towing, Inc. and Cole Towing & Recovery, Inc., met all proposal requirements and were deemed responsive to the RFP; and,

WHEREAS, the term of this contract shall be for five (5) years. The initial fee schedule shall remain fixed for the first two (2) years. Once each calendar year, beginning with the third year and each year thereafter, the Contractors may call for a meeting of the various Public Safety agencies, Purchasing Division representatives, Public Works representative, METRA Transit System representative and the City Manager’s Officer (or his designee) to consider fee changes. With approval of a majority of the meeting representatives, the Contractors may increase or decrease fees in accordance with any changes in the Consumer Price Index during the preceding year.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL OF COLUMBUS, GEORGIA, HEREBY RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

I.

That Resolution No. 182-25 is hereby amended to make the award as set forth in this Resolution; and,

II.

That the Mayor and/or his designee is hereby authorized to negotiate an annual contract award with Griffin and Griffin Towing, Inc. (Columbus, GA) and Cole Towing & Recovery, Inc. (Columbus, GA). The vendors will provide Traffic Incident Management Services (TIMS), which are overseen by Public Safety Departments, and Towing Services for City-owned vehicles and equipment, on an “as needed” rotation basis which aligns with the intended award specified in the RFP. Negotiation is required to ensure pricing to citizens and the City are the same from both vendors per the RFP specifications. Towing charges for vehicles of citizens will be billed to the owner of the vehicles. Funding to cover towing services for City vehicles is budgeted each fiscal year for this on-going expense: Various Departments – Auto Parts and Supplies; 6721;

General Fund - Police - Motor Transport – Motor Transport - Other Purchased Services, 0101-400-3230-MOTR-6699; Transportation Fund - Transportation FTA – METRA FTA (UMTA) – Vehicle Operation & Maintenance, 0751-610-2400-MFTA-6516.

Introduced at a regular meeting of the Council of Columbus, Georgia, held the _____ day of _____, 2025 and adopted at said meeting by the affirmative vote of _____ members of said Council.

Councilor Allen	voting _____
Councilor Anker	voting _____
Councilor Chambers	voting _____
Councilor Cogle	voting _____
Councilor Crabb	voting _____
Councilor Davis	voting _____
Councilor Garrett	voting _____
Councilor Hickey	voting _____
Councilor Huff	voting _____
Councilor Tucker	voting _____

Lindsey G. Mclemore, Clerk of Council

B.H. “Skip” Henderson III, Mayor