CITY OF NORMAN, OK

STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: 11/09/2021

REQUESTER: Taylor Johnson, Transit and Parking Program Manager

PRESENTER: Shawn O'Leary, Director of Public Works

ITEM TITLE: CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL, REJECTION, AMENDMENT, AND/OR POSTPONEMENT OF CONTRACT K-2122-43: A CONTRACT BY AND BETWEEN THE CITY OF NORMAN, OKLAHOMA, AND I.V.S. INC., D/B/A ANGELTRAX, IN AN AMOUNT NOT-TO-EXCEED $122,473.62 TO PROVIDE A PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION ON-BOARD SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM FOR THE CITY OF NORMAN PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION FLEET AND BUDGET APPROPRIATION AS OUTLINED IN THE STAFF REPORT.

BACKGROUND:

On July 1, 2019 the City of Norman took over the operations of the City public transit service from the University of Oklahoma. With the Fiscal Year 2020 budget, Council authorized a series of one-time startup costs to truly transition the service to the City of Norman. Some of those costs included branding, bus stop signage, technology systems, etc. The last remaining item to be transitioned is the on-board surveillance system. This system consists of cameras that record continuously as service is being provided. These systems prove to be invaluable to public transit agencies if there is an incident on the bus involving passengers, an incident with another vehicle, and for bus operator evaluations and training. The Department of Transportation (DOT) and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Security Cameras / Security Systems Fact Sheet of December 2007 states: "All modes of public transportation systems, whether urban or rural, bus, rail, or ferry, can benefit from the implementation of a security system. CCTV cameras, the most basic Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) technologies used for security systems, can be used on both large and small transit systems to monitor the safety and security of passengers, employees, equipment, and materials". In addition, the City's contract with EMBARK requires CON to alert EMBARK of any on board cameras which are not working as they are responsible for the safety of their employees, the bus operators.

While the City inherited an on-board surveillance system with the fleet from the University, some vehicles do not have cameras and existing components were becoming outdated. Thus, staff developed a Request for Proposals (RFP) to replace and update the existing system.

DISCUSSION:

Using RFP-2122-16, City staff solicited proposals to acquire a new on-board public transit surveillance system. Below are key components that staff identified were needed:

- Sufficient camera coverage both inside and outside the vehicle.
- Sufficient storage on each vehicle to be able to download video up to 240 hours in the past.
- An automatic system that would download tagged video wirelessly when the vehicle would come in range of the public transit fleet yard.
- A computer software solution that would enable both EMBARK and City employees to tag/request video be downloaded and viewed.

In addition, the RFP requested cost estimates to have a public Wi-Fi solution installed on each vehicle for public use. Over the years there has been an increase within the transit industry in providing this amenity for passengers and staff desired to capitalize on efficiencies of having one provider for both the surveillance and the Wi-Fi system.

In response to RFP-2122-16, a total of 9 proposals were received by the following vendors: AngelTrax, AT&T, Convergint, CWI Digital Systems, Luminator Technology Group, Safe Fleet, Safety Vision, RL Controls, and Samsara. An evaluation committee made up of City and EMBARK staff scored and ranked the 9 proposals received, then conducted interviews/presentations with the top vendors: AngelTrax, Safe Fleet, and Safety Vision. At the conclusion of the evaluation process, I.V.S. Inc. d.b.a. AngelTrax was selected as the best solution for the proposed project. AngelTrax has extensive experience working with different types of fleets, including public transportation, and will provide the City with the technology solutions that met the key components as listed above. In addition, AngelTrax provided the lowest cost proposal when taking into account the initial setup and ongoing annual costs.

Local funds for this project are budgeted in the fiscal year 2022 budget in the Public Transit Fund, Telecom Equipment-Computer (account number 27550276-45301). In addition, the City has a total of $38,269 available in its fiscal year 2020 ($19,462 – OK-2020-005) and 2021 ($18,807 – OK-2020-026) Federal Transit Administration (FTA) annual grants, specifically for security projects. The FTA requires that recipients program 1% of their annual grant for security projects, unless proven that it is not needed. A budget appropriation of $38,269 would be needed from the Capital Fund Balance (account number 50-29000), for the up-front costs of the expenses covered by the FTA grant. These funds would be reimbursed to the City once the project was complete. This would make the cost sharing of the project $84,204.62 (69%) local and $38,269 (31%) federal.

If approved by Council, staff will work with the vendor to create a schedule for the work to be completed. As the City nears moving into the facility on North Base, that will house the transit operations and maintenance activities, staff will need to work closely with the vendor to ensure that the installation schedule does not interfere with this transition. The project should be completed in the spring of 2022.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of Contract K-2122-43 in the amount of $122,473.62 for the purchase and installation of an on-board surveillance and Wi-Fi system for the public transit fleet and a budget appropriation of $38,269 from the Capital Fund Balance (50-29000) to Telecom Equipment-Computer (27550276 45301).