

T Transportation Committee

Metropolitan Council meeting: September 26, 2012

ADVISORY INFORMATION

Date September 18, 2012

Prepared:

Subject: Sole Source Contract with ACT Traffic Solutions, Inc.

Proposed Action:

That the Metropolitan Council authorizes the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute a sole-source contract with ACT Traffic Solutions, Inc. for furnishing and installing Transit Signal Priority (TSP) components and software at an estimated cost of \$340,000.

Summary of Committee Discussion / Questions:

Claudius Toussaint, Metro Transit Project Manager, presented.

A motion by Council Member Commers was seconded by Council Member Smith and passed unanimously. This item can proceed to the full Council as a Consent Item.

T Transportation Committee
Meeting date: September 10, 2012
For the Council Meeting of September 26, 2012

ADVISORY INFORMATION

Date: August 23, 2012
Subject: Sole Source Contract with ACT Traffic Solutions, Inc.
District(s), Member(s): All
Policy/Legal Reference: Council Policy 3-3 Expenditures – Procurement of Goods and Services over \$250,000
Staff Prepared/Presented: Brian Lamb, General Manager, 612-349-7510
Marilyn Porter, Director Engineering & Facilities, 612-349-7689
Pat Jones, Asst. Director Facilities Engineering, 612-349-7606
Claudius Toussaint, Project Manager, 612-349-7770
Division/Department: Engineering & Facilities

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorizes the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute a sole-source contract with ACT Traffic Solutions, Inc. for furnishing and installing Transit Signal Priority (TSP) components and software at an estimated cost of \$340,000.

Background

The region's first Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) system is being constructed on Cedar Avenue. The TSP system is planned to be installed on buses and at signals along the Cedar Avenue BRT corridor between 140th St. in Apple Valley and 179th St. in Lakeville. Cedar BRT vehicles will trigger extended green lights and truncated red lights to improve transit travel times through signalized intersections on the Cedar Avenue corridor.

Transit Signal Priority is currently used by Metro Transit at 29 intersections. 27 of the intersections are along the Central Avenue corridor in northern Minneapolis and the adjacent suburbs including Columbia Heights. The remaining two intersections are near the Rosedale Transit Center in Roseville. Of these 29 intersections, 18 are operated by the City of Minneapolis, 10 are operated by the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT), and one is operated by Ramsey County.

All Metro Transit buses (approximately 850) are equipped with the hardware necessary to facilitate TSP. The EMTRAC brand of TSP equipment was used to equip both the buses and the 29 intersections. EMTRAC uses GPS-based technology to perform TSP and also interfaces with the TransitMaster Automated Vehicle Location (AVL) system on the buses to provide TSP calls on a conditional basis (when buses are behind schedule by a user-configurable amount of time).

Rationale

EMTRAC is Metro Transit's TSP system. ACT is the only authorized representative and support firm for EMTRAC Systems in Minnesota. All sales and support of the EMTRAC system in Minnesota is handled by ACT (see attached letter).

Funding

CTIB (Counties Transit Improvement Board) funding in the amount of \$340,000 is available in this project.

Known Support / Opposition

Dakota County Regional Railroad Authority and Minnesota Valley Transit Authority staffs are in support of this action. There is no known opposition to this action.