

Minutes

RTA Operational Planning & Infrastructure Committee

9:42 a.m. January 7, 2025

Committee Members: Welch (Chair), Love, Sleasman

Not present: None

Staff/Other: Allen, Becker, Biggar, Birdsong Terry, Burney, Caver, Dangelo, Davidson, Dimmick, Fesler, Fields, Fleig, Freilich, Garofoli, Hudson, Jones, Jupina, Kerg, Kirkland, Korman, Laule, Lawson, Manning, Martin, Metcalf, Miller, Mothes, Piggery, Reynolds, Rusnov, Schipper, Sutula, Tarka, Togher, Walker Minor, Woodford, Young

Public: Fowler, Gibbons, Samuels

The meeting was called to order at 9:42 a.m. Three (3) committee members were present.

IFB Procurement – W. 65th Street Station Stairway and Platforms

Norbert Reynolds, Resident Engineer and Jenn Martin, Contract Administrator II, Procurement gave the presentation. A few years ago, a few potholes appeared at the W. 65th station entrance. The stairway started to fail. Corrosion is damaging the electronic features.

Project Overview

Scope of Work

- Construct temporary protective barrier around stairway
- Install falsework under upper platform
- Demo staircase and upper platform
- Demo electrical conduits
- Paint steel
- Install FRP stairs, replace upper concrete slab
- New electrical and communication conduits and cables.

Special Requirements

- Three – four total weekend track outages
- 270 days to substantial completion

Procurement Overview

The Invitation for Bid (IFB) was issued October 4, 2024. It was accessed on the GCRTA website by seventeen (17) interested parties. Two (2) firms submitted a bid. One (1) bid was deemed responsive. The lowest responsive and responsible vendor is The Great Lakes Construction Co. of Hinckley, Ohio. A 10% DBE participation goal was assigned to this procurement by the Office of Business Development and will be achieved by utilizing Denise's Flagging & Construction Services, Inc., Key Cable & Supply, Rockport Ready Mix and All Contractors Supply LLC.

The Great Lakes Construction Co. has successfully completed projects for GCRTA, ODOT, City of Rocky River, City of Dayton, Akron-Canton Regional Airport, and Cleveland Port Authority, among others. The Great Lakes Construction Co. has current projects with GCRTA, ODOT, City of Cleveland, Lake County, City of Strongsville, City of Canton, and Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District, among others.

Recommendation:

Staff requests that the Operational Planning and Infrastructure Committee recommend an award to The Great Lakes Construction Co. for the W. 65th Stairway and Platform Repairs. The contract is in an amount not to exceed \$644,172.50.

It was moved by Mr. Love, seconded by Mr. Sleasman and approved to move to the full Board.

IFP Procurement – Traction Power Substation at E. 120th Street

Robert Piggery, Engineer Project Manager, Electrical and Jonathan Laule, Program Contract Manager, Procurement gave the presentation.

Project Overview

- Installation of a prefabricated 2 MW Traction Power Substation (TPSS)
- The new TPSS will replace the existing station located at Euclid and Coltman constructed in the 1960's
- Will synergize with the surrounding community
- Approximate building height is 14' with a 1,200 SF area
- Construct new access drive and some landscaping
- The new TPSS will improve voltage stability on the eastern end of the Red Line
- Improve ride efficiency for the Little Italy community

Procurement Overview

The Invitation for Bid (IFB) was issued September 9, 2024. It was accessed on the GCRTA website by eleven (11) interested parties. Two (2) firms submitted a bid. The lowest responsive and responsible vendor was RGT Services LLC dba The Fowler Company. A 15% DBE participation goal was assigned to this project and will be achieved using Cook Paving & Construction and Denise's Flagging Services. RGT Services LLC dba The Fowler Company has successfully completed projects for GCRTA, Medina City School District, Cuyahoga County Engineer, among others.

Recommendation

Staff requests that the Operational Planning and Infrastructure Committee recommend award to RGT Services LLC dba The Fowler Company for the East 120th Street Substation Replacement. The contract is in an amount not to exceed \$7,194,208.00. Mr. Love asked if in the future the site plan for the existing substation could have some opportunities for a high profile site on Coltman and Euclid Avenue.

It was moved by Mr. Love, seconded by Mr. Sleasman and approved to move to the full Board.

RFP Procurement – On Call Surveying Services – Phase 7

Don Tereba, Resident Engineer and Jonathan Laule, Program Contract Manager, Procurement, gave the presentation.

Project Overview

- Perform project surveying services to augment GCRTA in-house personnel
- Work is by Task Order assignment
- Total Task Orders not the exceed \$250,000 for a contact term of 36 months from first task Notice to Proceed

- Assignments where rapid turnaround is required
- Work to support property management
- Where complex boundary research is required
- Expediting project design
- Checking project construction

Procurement Overview

The Request for Proposal (RFP) was issued October 7, 2024. It was accessed on the GCRTA website by seven (7) interested parties. Four (4) firms submitted a proposal. This project was done according to the Brooks Act. The evaluation panel consisted of various RTA departments using evaluation criteria. The most technically qualified vendor is KS Associates, Inc. A 3% DBE goal was assigned to this project. The goal will be met by utilizing 2LMN and Denise's Flagging and Construction Services. KS Associates, Inc. has completed projects for GCRTA, ODOT, Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District, Cuyahoga County, among others. The firm has worked with GCRTA on many similar projects and has provided quality deliverables.

Recommendation

Staff requests the Operational Planning and Infrastructure Committee recommend award to KS Associates, Inc. for On-Call Surveying Services – Phase 7. The contract is not to exceed \$250,000 for a period of 36 months.

It was moved by Mr. Sleasman, seconded by Mr. Love and approved to move to the full Board.

RFP Procurement – Light Rail Shelter Replacement

Mandy Metcalf, Senior Planner, Programming & Planning and Shawn Becker, Program Contract Manager, Procurement gave the presentation.

Project Overview

The Light Rail Shelter Project is intended to increase ridership by improving comfort, convenience, and service image through new shelters, lighting, informational signage, seating, bicycle parking, and landscaping. As part of the project, three contracts will be awarded, for A) shelters B) construction including installation and concrete C) digital real time arrival signs. Stop amenities were prioritized based on ridership. The westbound stations and transfer points are getting a greater number of amenities.

This project is funded by CMAQ funds flexed to FTA with a local match. The process included External Stakeholder Committee meetings to get input on shelter design and amenities. This project went through an Environmental Review and Shaker Architectural Board Review of shelter design concepts. Construction is anticipated from summer 2025 through spring 2026.

Part A consists of delivery of 36 replacement shelters. Twenty-eight shelters will be along the Blue and Green light rail lines and eight shelters at connecting bus routes. There will be Busway and platform shelters for the Van Aken Warrensville Station, which will be reconstructed. GCRTA will install the shelters. Shelters will be weather protective, use standard panels. Westbound shelters will have solar lighting and real time arrival signage, some with solar on separate stanchion. Van Aken Warrensville shelter installation will be coordinated with the reconstruction of the station.

Procurement Overview

The RFP was issued on September 15, 2024. It was accessed on the GCRTA website by twelve (12) interested parties. Proposals were due October 30, 2024. Two (2) firms proposed. The evaluation panel consisted of various RTA departments using evaluation criteria.

Recommended Firm: Tolar Manufacturing Company, Inc.

- Founded in 1991
- Headquartered in Corona, CA
- Leading North American design and fabricator
- Award-winning, best-in-class transit shelters, solar solutions, street furniture and digital information displays
- 500+ Designs and hundreds of customized solutions
- Emphasis on design, specifications and high-quality materials
- Extensive transit experience, including federally-funded projects and Buy America

The firm has experience with Blacksburg Transit, Capital Area Rural Transportation System, Capital Area Transportation Authority, Capital Metro, Central Florida Regional Transportation Authority (LYNX), among many others.

Recommendation

Staff requests that the Operational, Planning & Infrastructure Committee recommend to the Board of Trustees the award for Light Rail Shelter Replacement to Tolar Manufacturing Company, Inc. in a total negotiated contract amount NTE \$826,750.00.

Ms. Welch commended staff for getting public input. Ms. Elder asked if the real-time updates will be on the eastbound. Ms. Metcalf said real-time will also be at key eastbound stations at the transfer points. There is an option to do some push to talk buttons that are less expensive but can be implemented without the signage, which will be discussed next.

Mr. Love asked if the 36 shelters would be added or replaced. Ms. Metcalf said these will replace existing shelters and benches will be placed where there are no shelters. Mr. Love asked how this intersects with the light rail shelter modification for the new rail cars. Ms. Metcalf said the shelters and amenities will be removable. Mr. Schipper added that staff is capable of moving the amenities during the platform modification which is 2-3 years out. Ninety percent of customers have a wait on the westbound platforms so there is less waiting eastbound therefore less need for shelters. Ms. Terry mentioned digital advertising for the future.

It was moved by Ms. Welch, seconded by Mr. Love and approved to move to the full Board.

RFP Procurement – Electronic Signage along Light Rail Stations

Mandy Metcalf, Senior Planner, Programming & Planning and Shawn Becker, Program Contract Manager, Procurement gave the presentation.

Project Overview

- Forty-two epaper digital passenger information signs to transmit GTFS real time light rail arrival estimates, route information, and alerts including a 5-year service package.
- Epaper signage can be solar powered
- Located at westbound light rail stations and connecting bus stops
- Seven (7) 13" grid connected signs

- Twenty-three (23) 13" solar powered signs
 - Sixteen (16) on 2' diameter pole
 - Seven (7) to share a stanchion pole and solar platform with a separate solar panel for shelter lighting, connected to a sign located inside the shelter
- Five (5) spare 13" signs
- Seven (7) 32" grid powered signs for platform and waiting area at Van Aken Warrensville Station
- Option for forty-three (43) Falcon Push to Talk Buttons
- Falcons will "read" the sign information when activated
- Can be stand-alone without sign

Procurement Overview

The RFP was issued on September 22, 2024. It was accessed on the GCRTA website by fifteen (15) interested parties. Proposals were due November 1, 2024. Two (2) firms proposed. The evaluation panel consisted of various RTA departments using evaluation criteria. The recommended firm is Connectpoint, Inc. founded in 2014 and headquartered in Goleta, CA. They are the leading digital signage and content management software provider to U.S. transit. They are the Original Equipment Manufacturer. They emphasize Safety and Security. They have a local VPN for data. The signs are weather resistant and encapsulated in a case to protect against vandalism.

Other Items

- Custom Implementation Plan
- Innovation and Recognition
- Options, Flexibility and Scalability
- Customer Service Responsiveness

Connectpoint, Inc has experience with GCRTA, Central Ohio Transit Authority (COTA), Butler County Regional Transit Authority (BCRTA), PACE, King County Metro, TriMet Portland Streetcar, LINK Transit, Regional Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada (RTC), Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority (SEPTA), among many others.

Recommendation

Staff requests that the Operational, Planning & Infrastructure Committee recommend to the Board of Trustees the award for Electric Signage for Light Rail Shelter Replacement to Connectpoint, Inc. in a total negotiated base contract amount NTE \$380,055.00, with an option for up to forty-three (43) Push-to-Talk Buttons in an amount NTE \$97,610.00, for a total contract amount NTE \$477,665.00 for a five-year period.

Ms. Welch asked if this product is currently used and what is the feedback. Ms. Metcalf said we have a pilot program with this vendor and they are happy with their work. The real-time signs are located downtown and in University Circle. Ms. Welch asked for the length of the pilot. Ms. Metcalf said the pilot had been in place for 4-5 years. The vendor has made some improvements. They have a new vandal guard product included in this contract. Mr. Sleasman asked if the signs are backlit. Ms. Metcalf said they can be seen at night. Mr. Becker said lighting can be adjusted for the season.

It was moved by Ms. Welch, seconded by Mr. Sleasman and approved to move to the full Board.

IFB Procurement – Light Rail Replacement Shelters (other amenities)

Norbert Reynolds, Resident Engineer and Jonathan Laule, Program Contract Manager, Procurement gave the presentation. This phase is on the construction of the shelter project.

The project include various stations along the Blue and Green line:

- Installation of concrete pads for the placement of amenities (benches)
- Installation of solar lights and solar signs
- Furnishing of bike racks and trash cans. (RTA to install)

Procurement Overview

The Invitation for Bid was issued September 22, 2024. It was accessed on the GCRTA website by fifteen (15) interested parties. Four (4) firms submitted a bid. The lowest responsive and responsible vendor is Northeast Ohio Trenching Service, Inc. A 15% DBE participation goal was assigned to this project. Northeast Ohio Trenching Service, Inc. completed the good faith effort process. This was reviewed and approved by the Office of Business Development. Northeast Ohio Trenching Service, Inc. has successfully completed projects for the City of Brooklyn, City of Aurora, Cuyahoga Community College, and GCRTA, among others.

Recommendation

Staff requests that the Operational Planning and Infrastructure Committee recommend award to Northeast Ohio Trenching Service, Inc. for the Light Rail Shelter Replacement (Other Amenities). The contract is in an amount not to exceed \$293,000.00.

Ms. Welch asked why the three shelter projects were presented separately. Mr. Schipper said the shelter portion is the majority cost. There would have been subcontractor markups for the signs, solar panels and concrete construction. The budget for the program is \$2 million. The three projects total \$1.6 million.

It was moved by Ms. Welch, seconded by Mr. Love and approved to move to the full Board.

RFP Procurement – On-Call Signal Engineering Services

Andrew Korman, Engineering Project Manager, Electrical and Jenn Martin, Contract Administrator II, Procurement gave the presentation.

Project Overview

- Provide signal engineering design and technical support for projects exceeding the capacity or expertise of GCRTA personnel.
- Work is by task order assignment.
- Total task orders not to exceed \$450,000 over a 24-month period.

Work may include:

- Highway-rail grade crossing warning systems
- Wayside and computer assisted braking systems
- Roadway traffic control systems
- Vital processor and CTDS interaction
- Regulatory compliance
- Training and specification development

Potential tasks include:

- Replacement of GL1 processor
- Replacement of Tower City track circuits
- Signal and communication issues as they arise

Procurement Overview

The Request for Proposal (RFP) was issued October 4, 2024. It was accessed on the GCRTA website by nineteen (19) interested parties. Two (2) firms submitted a proposal. Two (2) firm were interviewed. The Brooks Act was used for this procurement. The evaluation panel consisted of various RTA departments using evaluation criteria. The most technically qualified vendor is Mott MacDonald, LLC, Cleveland, OH. A 4% DBE goal was assigned to this project and will be met by utilizing Pacific Railway Enterprises, Inc. and GeoTrans.

Mott MacDonald, LLC has successfully completed projects for the GCRTA, Ohio Department of Transportation, Ohio Turnpike and Infrastructure Commission, Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority, among others. Mott MacDonald, LLC's personnel are experienced and familiar with the GCRTA system as a consultant and in providing quality deliverables.

Recommendation

Staff Requests that the Operational Planning and Infrastructure Committee recommend award to Mott MacDonald, LLC for Consulting Services for the On-Call Signal Engineering Services - 2024. The contract is not to exceed \$450,000.00 for the period of 24 months.

It was moved by Ms. Welch, seconded by Mr. Sleasman and approved to move to the full Board.

Proposed Change Order – Track/Platform Bridges over West 117th Street

Kirk Dimmick, Engineering Project Manager, Bridges and Jonathan Laule, Program Contract Manager, Procurement gave the presentation.

Project Update:

- Current contract amount with nineteen (19) authorized change orders to date is \$8,801,262.86.
- Notice to Proceed effective July 12, 2023, with completion set for November 10, 2025.
- Change orders approved under the *current* General Manager signing authority is \$455,601.93.
- Change order limit of \$500,000.00

Change Order: Abatement of Lead Based Paint (Unforeseen)

- Lead-based paint was discovered on concealed surfaces of track bridge members after concrete decks were removed.
- Abatement was required to remove this hazard.
- Two Construction Change Directives (CCD) were authorized to complete this work.

Change Order Justification

- \$44,398.07 remains in the General Manager (GM) Change Order Authority
- The negotiated amount for Construction Change Directives (CCD) 1 and 2 is \$355,215.68 of this amount \$238,912.45 has already been authorized through the existing GM Change Order Authority. The remaining amount of \$116,303.23 requires Board authorization. These CCDs have been reviewed by Internal Audit and recommended by the Change Order Committee.
- Resetting the GM Change Order Authority to \$500,000 will allow project to continue.

Recommendation

Staff Requests that the Operational, Planning & Infrastructure Committee recommend approval of the proposed change order to Suburban Maintenance Construction, Inc. in a negotiated amount not to

exceed \$116,303.23, resulting in a new total contract amount not to exceed \$8,917,566.09. This change order will also reinstate the General Manager's change authority to \$500,000.00.

It was moved by Ms. Welch, seconded by Mr. Sleasman and approved to move to the full Board.

Propose Change Order – Tower City East Portal Rehabilitation

Kirk Dimmick, Engineering Project Manager, Bridges and Jonathan Laule, Program Contract Manager, Procurement gave the presentation.

Project Update

- Current contract amount with eight (8) authorized change orders to date is \$16,210,463.72.
- Notice to Proceed effective February 20, 2024, with completion set for June 10, 2026.
- Change orders approved under the *current* General Manager signing authority is \$482,910.92.
- Change order limit of \$500,000.00.

Change Order: Drainage Additions (Unforeseen)

- Existing storm structure lids located 2 feet below track level were found welded or rusted shut with broken components.
- Re-use is not feasible.
- Change Order will add cast iron risers and new lids to the structures to improve subdrainage and keep the structures accessible for future maintenance

Change Order Justification:

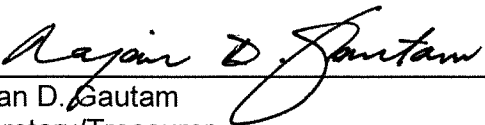
- \$17,089.08 remains in the General Manager (GM) Change Order Authority
- Proposed Change Order No. 8, in a negotiated amount not to exceed \$98,544.40, has been recommended by the Change Order Committee.
- Resetting the GM Change Order Authority to \$500,000 will allow project to continue.

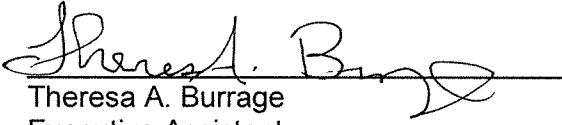
Recommendation

Staff Requests that the Operational, Planning & Infrastructure Committee recommend approval of the proposed change order to Great Lakes Construction Company in a negotiated amount not to exceed \$98,544.40 resulting in a new total contract amount not to exceed \$16,309,008.12. This change order will also reinstate the General Manager's change authority to \$500,000.00.

It was moved by Ms. Welch, seconded by Mr. Love and approved to move to the full Board.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:42 a.m.


Rajan D. Gautam
Secretary/Treasurer


Theresa A. Burrage
Executive Assistant