

## Minutes

### RTA Organizational, Services and Performance Monitoring Committee Meeting

9:06 a.m., March 5, 2024

**Committee Members:** Biasiotta (Chair), Sleasman, Weiss, Welch

**Other Board Members:** Love, Lucas, McPherson, Mersmann

**Not present:** Koomar, Pacetti

**Staff:** Birdsong Terry, Burney, Caver, Cottrell, Dangelo, Davidson, Dimmick, Fields, Fleig, Freilich, Garofoli, Gautam, Hlavacs, Jupina, Kirkland, Laule, Rosenlieb, Schipper, Sutula, Talley, Tarka, Togher, Walker-Minor

**Public:** Gibbons

The meeting was called to order at 9:06 a.m. Four (4) committee members were present.

#### RFP Procurement for Rail Landscaping Services

Jason Rosenlieb, Manager, Facilities – RTM, Rail District and Sharon Cottrell Pepper, Procurement Team Manager, Services made the presentation.

#### Project Overview

##### *Landscaping Areas:*

- Red Line – 17 Stations
- Blue Line – 6 Stations
- Green Line – 5 Stations
- Waterfront – 5 Stations
- Operating Facilities and owned land – 27 areas
- Total of 60 properties that are visited and maintained

##### *Scope of Services include:*

- Spring clean-up
- Fall clean-up
- Green Roog and Biorientation Basin maintenance
- Bed maintenance
- Turf maintenance
- Pruning

##### Previous vs. Current Contract:

- Current is Request for Proposal (RFP)
  - Single point of contact
  - Interview potential vendors to discuss quality of service and prevent future issues
  - Evaluated on numerous criteria including qualifications, understanding of scope of services, ability to provide services, Project Management, project approach resources, and cost
- Previous was Invitation for Bid (IFB)
  - Two separate contracts (Rapid Transit Ground Maintenance and Turf Maintenance)
  - Based on lowest responsive and responsible bid (cost was primary criteria)

## Procurement Overview

The Request for Proposals (RFP) was issued on December 10, 2023. It was accessed on the GCRTA web site by 32 interested parties. Three (3) firms proposed and 2 firms were interviewed. The evaluation panel consisted of various RTA departments using select criteria. The recommended firm is Pirc Company Landscaping & Snowplowing, LLC, located in Wickliffe, Ohio. A 17% DBE Goal will be achieved through the use of Top Designer Landscaping, LLC.

### Pirc Landscaping & Snowplowing, LLC:

- Family-owned company in business for 40 years
  - Serve a variety of large clients
  - Successful performance on Authority contracts
  - Qualified project manager and management team
  - Sufficient equipment, vehicles, and staffing

### Other Clients include:

- GCRTA
- Cleveland Foodbank
- Cuyahoga Community College
- Cuyahoga Valley National Park
- Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District

Staff requests that the Organizational, Services & Performance Monitoring Committee recommend an award to Pirc Company Landscaping & Snowplowing, LLC to provide Rail Landscaping Services for a three-year period with two, one-year options in an amount not to exceed \$1,181,147.07 for a period of three years, and for each option year in amounts not to exceed \$401,616.12 and \$405,632.28, respectively, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$1,988,395.47.

Mayor Biasiotta asked if the scope of services and price is similar to the last contract. Staff said it has gone up with COVID, surcharges and gas, but is consistent with inflation. Mayor Weiss asked if cleanup includes the area in between the stations. Staff said it encompasses all RTA property. Mr. Love asked if there is any priority to native plants. Dr. Caver said RTA is responsible for the right of way. Shaker Heights maintains the area between stations in that city. RTA maintains the footprint of the station. We don't do planting. The hill slopes are wild in nature. Native planting is prioritized near new transit stations like E. 34<sup>th</sup> and E. 79<sup>th</sup>.

It was moved by Mayor Biasiotta, seconded by Mayor Weiss to move this item to the full Board. Mr. Sleasman asked to be rescued. There were three (3) ayes and one abstention from Mr. Sleasman.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 a.m.

  
Rajan D. Gautam  
Secretary/Treasurer

  
Theresa A. Burrage  
Executive Assistant