

RESOLUTION NO. 2014-94

AUTHORIZING CONTRACT NO. 2014-026 WITH VANTIV, LLC AND FIFTH THIRD BANK TO PROVIDE MERCHANT SERVICES TO THE AUTHORITY FOR A PERIOD OF THREE YEARS WITH TWO, ONE-YEAR OPTIONS COMMENCING JANUARY 1, 2015

WHEREAS, the Authority has a need to contract for Merchant Services for processing of credit and pin debit payments, for a period of three years with two, one-year options; and

WHEREAS, the proposal of Vantiv, LLC located at 8500 Governor's Hill Drive, Maildrop 1GH1Y1, Symmes Township, OH 45249-1384 and Fifth Third Bank, located at 38 Fountain Square Plaza, Cincinnati, Ohio 45263 to provide these services was received on April 9, 2014; and

WHEREAS, after negotiations, Vantiv, LLC and Fifth Third Bank have offered to provide such services at competitive rates; and

WHEREAS, the General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer deems the negotiated offer of Vantiv, LLC and Fifth Third Bank to be in the best interest of the Authority, price and other factors considered, and recommends acceptance thereof by the Board of Trustees.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority, Cuyahoga County, Ohio:

Section 1. That the negotiated offer of Vantiv, LLC and Fifth Third Bank to provide a merchant services program for a period of three years with two, one-year options, is hereby accepted.

Section 2. That the General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer be and he is hereby authorized to enter into a contract with Vantiv, LLC and Fifth Third Bank to provide said services for a period of three years and to exercise two, one-year options and to execute and submit any associated papers necessary to implement the merchant services.

Section 3. That said contract shall be payable from the General Fund, and debited against receipts from online fare media sales, virtual POS transactions, payment for violation fares, TVM (ticket vending machine) sales and transactions from POS terminals at Tower City and Revenue.

Section 4. That said contract shall be binding upon and an obligation of the Authority contingent upon appropriation of funds for future years, compliance by the contractor to the Specifications and Addenda, if any; the Affirmative Action Plan adopted by the Board of Trustees in Resolution No. 2013-031; bonding and insurance requirements and all applicable laws relating to contractual obligations of the Authority.

Section 5. That the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority's Board of Trustees expects that Vantiv, LLC and Fifth Third Bank will attempt to exceed the 0% minimum DBE goal assigned to this project.


Section 6. That this resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

Adopted: October 21, 2014



President

Attest:



CEO, General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer



TITLE/DESCRIPTION: CONTRACT: MERCHANT SERVICES FOR A PERIOD OF THREE YEARS WITH TWO, ONE-YEAR OPTIONS VENDOR: VANTIV, LLC AND FIFTH THIRD BANK	Resolution No.: 2014-94
	Date: October 16, 2014
	Initiator: Accounting
ACTION REQUEST: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approval <input type="checkbox"/> Review/Comment <input type="checkbox"/> Information Only <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	

- 1.0 **PURPOSE/SCOPE:** This action will allow the Authority to enter into a merchant services relationship for a period of three years with two, one-year options.

- 2.0 **DESCRIPTION/JUSTIFICATION:** The Authority requires merchant services to process online fare media sales, virtual POS transactions, payment for violation fares, TVM (ticket vending machine) sales – both credit and debit based transactions and transactions from the POS terminals at the Customer Service Center at Tower City and a wireless POS terminal at Revenue. GCRTA's current merchant services provider is phasing out the platform that now provides GCRTA's merchant services. GCRTA cannot transition its TVMs to the new platform because the new platform does not process pin debit transactions with GCRTA's current gateway. By changing merchant services providers, GCRTA would realize a cost savings as well.

- 3.0 **PROCUREMENT BACKGROUND:** The Request for Proposal (RFP) was posted on the GCRTA Procurement web site and advertised in the local newspapers. Twenty (20) prospective proposers reviewed the solicitation and four proposals were received. After evaluation by a panel of Authority employees in accordance with established Procurement Department policies and procedures, and after negotiations, the proposal of Vantiv, LLC and Fifth Third Bank was determined to be the most advantageous to the Authority, rates and all other factors considered.

 A price analysis was performed and the Procurement Department has determined the rates of Vantiv, LLC and Fifth Third Bank to be fair and reasonable to the Authority.

- 4.0 **AFFIRMATIVE ACTION/DBE BACKGROUND:** All Affirmative Action requirements have been met. A 0% DBE goal was established for this procurement due to the lack of certified DBE firms.

- 5.0 **POLICY IMPACT:** Does not apply.

- 6.0 **ECONOMIC IMPACT:** This procurement will be funded through the General Fund, and debited against receipts from online fare media sales, virtual POS transactions, payment for violation fares, TVM (ticket vending machine) sales and transactions from POS terminals at Tower City and Revenue.

- 7.0 **ALTERNATIVES:** Reject this offer. Rejection of this offer leaves the Authority with a merchant services provider that is phasing out the platform that will process both credit and pin debit transactions with GCRTA's current gateway and cause GCRTA to forego potential cost savings.

- 8.0 RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the offer of Vantiv, LLC and Fifth Third Bank be accepted and the resolution passed authorizing the General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer to enter into a contract.
- 9.0 ATTACHMENTS: None.

Recommended and certified as appropriate to the availability of funds, legal form and conformance with the Procurement requirements.



CEO, General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer