



Date: May 13, 2021  
Current Meeting: May 20, 2021  
Board Meeting: May 27, 2021

## BOARD MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Indianapolis Public Transportation Corporation Board of Directors  
**THROUGH:** President/CEO Inez P. Evans  
**FROM:** Director of Transportation Steven R. Beck  
**SUBJECT:** Consideration and Approval of Contract for 901 Circulator Route Provider

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### ACTION ITEM A – 10

#### RECOMMENDATION:

In a manner consistent with IPTC procurement and contract award standards, we request that the Board authorize the President/CEO to enter into a contract with Miller Transportation to provide service operations and vehicle maintenance for the 901 Circulator Route for an amount not to exceed \$1,400,000 for the full three (3) years.

#### BACKGROUND:

On December 20, 2020, IPTC published a Request for Information (RFI) seeking a vendor to provide shuttle services for the north extension of the Red Line BRT route. This route is called the 901 Circulator route and is separate from the Red Line. Since Winter 2019, it has been necessary for Red Line buses to continue north of the Red Line's 66<sup>th</sup> Street terminus to charge at a temporary location on 91<sup>st</sup> Street. Local stop service has been provided on this extension during this time.

The temporary charging site will soon be retired, as construction of a permanent electric bus charge solution at 6410 N. College is nearing completion. Once the permanent charging site is operational, BRT buses will no longer need to travel north of 66<sup>th</sup> Street.

With this change, the few passengers traveling the College Avenue route between 66<sup>th</sup> Street and 91<sup>st</sup> Street will move to the 901 Circulator route. Customers will have the opportunity to transfer between Route 901 and the Red Line at 66<sup>th</sup> Street. Due to low ridership north of 66<sup>th</sup> Street, a large bus is no longer warranted for the 901 Circulator Route. Service can be facilitated effectively from a shorter cutaway bus. Use of the cutaway style coach will right-size the vehicle to match the ridership demand and will alleviate some of the neighborhood concerns IPTC has been hearing.

IPTC received two responses to the RFI. One response was not accepted as a viable candidate for providing this service. The other response came from Miller Transportation. Based on the responses to the RFI, the assessment of performance, and service sustainability, it was determined that Miller Transportation would be the best choice to operate the 901 Circulator service. Given the low response to the publicly advertised RFI, it has been determined a competitive solicitation would not be necessary. IPTC will sole-source this service.

#### DISCUSSION:

IPTC seeks to enter into a contract with Miller Transportation to provide service operations and vehicle maintenance of the 901 Circulator and the cutaway buses.

IPTC, like other transit systems, historically enters into long-term contracts for ADA Paratransit and Fixed Route service based on pre-determined performance standards and goals. IPTC will contract the 901 Circulator Service from June 2021 to June 2023 for two years with one option to extend one year.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

The alternative to contracting with Miller Transportation is to restart the RFI process which will likely result in no different outcome or to operate the service in-house, which is, however, a substantially higher cost.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

The total cost of this procurement if the option year is exercised is not to exceed \$1,400,000 for the full three (3) years. The funding for this project will come out of operating budget.

**DBE/XBE DECLARATION:**

Not applicable.

**STANDING COMMITTEE DISCUSSION/RECOMMENDATION:**

This action will be reviewed by the Service Committee on May 20, 2021.