



Date of Memo: October 12, 2022
Current Meeting: October 20, 2022
Board Meeting: October 27, 2022

BOARD MEMORANDUM

TO: Indianapolis Public Transportation Corporation (IPTC) Board of Directors
THROUGH: President/CEO Inez P. Evans
FROM: Chief Information Officer Marcus Burnside
SUBJECT: Consideration and approval of RFP 22-04-441 wireless vehicle communication replacement

ACTION ITEM A – 10

RECOMMENDATION:

In a manner consistent with IPTC procurement award standards, it is requested that the Board authorize the President/CEO to enter into a contract agreement with Step CG, LLC, for three years with two optional years to provide wireless vehicle routers and services in an amount not to exceed \$778,072.

BACKGROUND:

Since 2018, IPTC has utilized mobile routers in all revenue service vehicles to facilitate cellular communication for public and private network access. These routers are comparable to the wireless home routers supplied and installed by Internet Service Providers (Xfinity, Spectrum, etc.). The mobile routers are the central communication point for CAD/AVL, information screens, traffic signal prioritization, fare validation, and public Wi-Fi on the buses.

DISCUSSION:

The current vendor (WAAV, Inc.) has been the contracted wireless vehicle router vendor since 2017. The contract expires in October 2022, and the equipment is at end-of-life. The current cellular technology is 3G/4G/4GLTE. IPTC is looking to replace the WAAV routers with 5G/5GUW capable routers to support the increased demand for additional bandwidth usage on the buses (up to 300Mbps or more, depending on the area). With the implementation of 5G mobile routers, IPTC will position itself ahead of the curve to offer better throughput rates for current, and future data bandwidth needs.

IPTC issued a solicitation for wireless vehicle routers and services in June 2022. Of the vendor submissions, five were deemed responsive and responsible. The Evaluation Committee met in September 2022 and selected Step CG, LLC, as the new wireless vehicle routers and services vendor. Step CG offered a quality product with favorable annual reoccurring costs and could meet our independent cost estimate (ICE) over five years.

ALTERNATIVES:

The Board could choose not to award this contract to the recommended bidder. However, IPTC will continue to use end-of-life equipment on a non-contract annual maintenance agreement and not have the additional cellular data bandwidth for current and future network demands.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The total cost of this procurement is \$778,072 through FY2025. The capital and operating investment in FY2023 is \$600,322, and the operational costs for FY2024 and FY2025 will be \$88,875 yearly, as illustrated below:

3 Year Total	\$778,071.50		Unit Quantity	250
	Cellular Gateways + License/Support	Antennas	Cabling + Power	Totals by Year
Year 1 - Capital & Operating	\$503,587.50	\$94,810.00	\$1,924.00	\$600,321.50
Year 2 - Operating	\$88,875.00	-	-	\$88,875.00
Year 3 - Operating	\$88,875.00	-	-	\$88,875.00

DBE/XBE DECLARATION:

There is no DBE goal associated with this contract award.

STANDING COMMITTEE DISCUSSION/RECOMMENDATION:

This action will be reviewed by the Finance Committee on October 20, 2022.