



Date of Memo: January 10, 2023
Current Meeting: January 19, 2023
Board Meeting: January 26, 2023

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 22-08-457 Distributed Antenna System

ACTION ITEM A – 9

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 Telamon Corporation for three years with two optional years to provide cellular repeater services in an amount not to exceed \$372,408.

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 computer-aided dispatch / automatic vehicle location (CAD/AVL), information screens, traffic signal prioritization, fare validation, and public Wi-Fi on the buses.

DISCUSSION:

Due to the physical structure and material makeup of our garage and maintenance areas, cellular connectivity is minimal to absent. The mobile routers have difficulty establishing connections while housed in both regions. To resolve the connectivity issue, IPTC will invest in a distributed antenna system (DAS), a network of antennas connected to a common source that provides cellular service within a geographic area or structure. Once in place, the DAS can provide cellular connectivity with all major cellular carriers in the affected areas.

IPTC issued a solicitation for a DAS and associated services in August 2022. Of the vendor submissions, two were deemed responsive and responsible. The Evaluation Committee met in December 2022 and selected Telamon Corporation as the DAS vendor. Telamon Corporation offered a quality product with favorable annual reoccurring costs and could meet our independent cost estimate (ICE) over three years.

ALTERNATIVES:

The Board could choose not to award this contract to the recommended bidder. However, IPTC will continue to experience a lack of cellular connectivity in the garage and maintenance areas, severely impacting daily operations.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The total cost of this procurement is \$372,408 through FY2026. The capital and operating investment in FY2023 is \$289,319, and the operational costs for FY2023 through FY2026 will be \$27,696 yearly, as illustrated below:

Total Three Year Total - \$372,408	Costs		
Item	Year1	Year 2	Year 3
Setup Fee	\$ 2,475.00	\$ -	\$ -
Antenna, cables, and all other equipment to be completely operational	\$ 143,466.08	\$ -	\$ -
Labor, Supervision	\$ 70,484.20	\$ -	\$ -
Training of IPTC Staff	\$ 3,655.80	\$ -	\$ -
Telecom Carrier Repeaters	\$ 69,238.00	\$ -	\$ -
Maintenance/Support	\$ 27,696.22	\$27,696.22	\$27,696.22
Annual Totals	\$ 317,015.30	\$27,696.22	\$27,696.22

DBE/XBE DECLARATION:

There is no DBE goal associated with this contract award. This procurement is locally funded; therefore, the goals established are Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) at 15%, Women Owned Business (WBE) at 8%, Veteran Owned Business (VBE) at 3%, and Disabled Owned Business (DOBE) at 1%. Telamon Corporation is a certified MBE, and Blue Maven IT is the dual-certified MBE and WBE subcontractor.

STANDING COMMITTEE DISCUSSION/RECOMMENDATION:

This action will be reviewed by the Finance Committee on January 19, 2023.