

Item No. 11.1.2
Halifax Regional Council
February 25, 2014

TO: Mayor Savage and Members of Halifax Regional Council

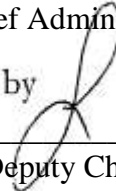
SUBMITTED BY:

Original signed by



Richard Butts, Chief Administrative Officer

Original Signed by



Mike Labrecque, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer

DATE: February 10, 2014

SUBJECT: Award - Sole Source Mobile Knowledge Support Agreement

ORIGIN

The approved operational budget for Metro Transit Technical Services which includes the support and operation of the AVL System and communications.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

Under the HRM Charter, Section 79, Halifax Regional Council may expend money for municipal purposes. Administrative Order #35, The Procurement Policy, requires Council to approve the award of contracts for sole sources exceeding \$50,000 or \$500,000 for Tenders and RFP's. The following report conforms to the above Policy and Charter.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Halifax Regional Council:

In accordance with the sole source provisions in Administrative Order 35, Procurement Policy Section 8(11)(A)(a), award the Sole Source Purchase of a support agreement with Mobile Knowledge for the Metro Transit AVL system Mobile Data Terminals in the amount of \$89,737.69 (net HST included) to Mobile Knowledge with funding per the Financial Implications Section of this report and approve Mobile Knowledge as the vendor for support and repair of the existing mobile data terminals for all conventional Metro Transit buses.

BACKGROUND

HRM Council awarded the replacement of the current AVL (Transit on Route) solution to Trapeze on January 14, 2014, as part of the multi-year roadmap (strategic plan) to support Metro Transit's objectives of: improved ridership and mode share; safe environment for transit employees and passengers; improved service quality and customer satisfaction; improved productivity and overall cost effectiveness. The expected time frame for implementation of the new AVL system is 18 to 24 months after the completion of contract discussions.

DISCUSSION

Mobile Knowledge is the supplier of the existing mobile data terminals on Metro Transit conventional buses. The mobile data terminal is the onboard computer that provides information including vehicle location, adherence data, broadcast messages and radio channel switching to the Transit on Route AVL system. This information is used by the Metro Transit operations department to make decisions on daily fleet management, this information is also delivered to the Go Time module of Transit On Route to provide information to the public via the telephone and terminal monitors.

The mobile data terminal is a key part of the safety features of the current AVL system by initiating and receiving broadcast messages between the buses and the Metro Transit Communications Center. The mobile data terminal controls the radio channel switching for the onboard radio system, allowing multiple buses to be in contact with the Metro Transit Communications center by utilizing multiple available radio channels.

The sole source purchase of the support agreement from Mobile Knowledge is required to ensure that the current mobile data terminals that are the key to the current AVL solution and radio communications remain functional until the replacement AVL solution is implemented.

The Mobile Knowledge support agreement will expire within the expected time frame of the implementation of the replacement AVL system and will not be renewed as we will be entering into support agreements with Trapeze.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Based on the Mobile Knowledge annual cost of \$86,049.60, plus net HST of \$3,668.09, for a total annual cost of \$89,737.69, funding is available from Operating Account No. R640-6204 . Budget availability has been confirmed by Finance.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

No community engagement has been undertaken specifically for this project.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

Staff has not identified any environmental implications associated with this proposed procurement.

ALTERNATIVES

Council could choose to not proceed with the procurement

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A Administrative Order 35 (excerpt)

A copy of this report can be obtained online at <http://www.halifax.ca/council/agendasc/cagenda.html> then choose the appropriate meeting date, or by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 490-4210, or Fax 490-4208.

Report Prepared by: Philip Herritt, Manager Technical Services (490-6649)

Report Approved by: _____
Eddie Robar, Director Metro Transit (490-6720)

Procurement Review: _____
Anne Feist, Manager, Procurement (490-4200)

**Attachment A
Administrative Order 35 (excerpt)**

8(11) A. Sole Source/Single Source Purchases. These occur:

- (a) To ensure compatibility with existing products, to recognize exclusive rights, such as exclusive licences, copyright and patent rights, or to maintain specialized products that must be maintained by the manufacturer or its representative.
- (b) Where there is an absence of competition for technical reasons and the goods or services can be supplied only by a particular supplier and no alternative or substitute exists.
- (c) For the procurement of goods or services the supply of which is controlled by a supplier that is a statutory monopoly.
- (d) For the purchase of goods on a commodity market.
- (e) For work to be performed on or about a leased building or portions thereof that may be performed only by the lessor.
- (f) For work to be performed on property by a contractor according to provisions of a warranty or guarantee held in respect of the property or the original work.
- (g) For the procurement of a prototype of a first good or service to be developed in the course of and for a particular contract for research, experiment, study or original development, but not for any subsequent purchases.
- (h) For the purchase of goods under exceptionally advantageous circumstances such as bankruptcy or receivership
- (i) For the procurement of original works of art.
- (j) For the procurement of goods intended for resale to the public.
- (k) For the procurement from a public body or a not-for-profit corporation.
- (1) For the procurement of goods or services for the purpose of evaluating or piloting new or innovative technology with demonstrated environmental, economic or social benefits when compared to conventional technology, but not for any subsequent purchases.