



Legislation Text

File #: [21-0524], Version: 1

Authorize the Town Manager to Negotiate and Sign an Automated Passenger Counters Sole Source Purchase Contract.

Staff:

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Department:

Transit

Overview: Transit currently has Automated Passenger Counters (APCs) on 65% of its fixed route fleet and needs to equip the remainder of its fleet with them. Our hardware on the buses currently equipped is supplied by Urban Transportation Associates (UTA). In order to maintain equivalent function and data integration amongst the entire fleet, hardware and integration software for the remaining 33 buses will need to be supplied by UTA.



Recommendation(s):

That the Council adopt the attached resolution authorizing the Town Manager to negotiate and sign a sole source contract to purchase hardware and implementation services from UTA to have 100% of Transit's buses equipped with Automated Passenger Counters.

Decision Points:

- Chapel Hill Transit collects ridership data on all routes for performance evaluation, needs assessments, and reporting purposes.
- Currently ridership is collected on 65% of transit buses, and total ridership is calculated using a statistician-approved rotation.
- APCs on 100% of vehicles provides the opportunity to analyze ridership data on a specific route, time, and day of the week.
- Chapel Hill Transit's fleet is equipped with UTA exclusive components.
- To maintain similar infrastructure on all the fleet, components will need to be sources from UTA, as the competitive process will still require 60% of the components being exclusively available from UTA.
- Sole source purchases must be approved by the governing board of a political subdivision of the State pursuant to N.C.G.S. 143-129(e) (6).

Key Issues:

- Purchasing additional APCs from UTA will allow the Town of Chapel Hill to have the same infrastructure on all transit buses that has been in place since the implementation of APCs in 2005.
- Integrating collected data with data from the 65% of buses that have APC's will require the same hardware and integration module currently in place.
- Using UTA will maintain a component set that can be integrated into future software systems, while requiring maintenance and parts for only one system.

Fiscal Impact/Resources: The purchase will be funded by 5339 Grant Funds, with an estimated cost of \$118,000. The purchase will be funded 80% by a Federal Transit Administration (FTA) grant with the 20% local match provided by the Transit Fund. The grant has pre-award authority through the FTA. Grant will be brought to Town Council to be recognized and adopted in the budget in the near future.



Attachments:

- Resolution

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO NEGOTIATE AND EXECUTE A SOLE SOURCE CONTRACT TO PURCHASE AUTOMATIC PASSENGER COUNTERS FROM URBAN TRANSPORTATION ASSOCIATES TO PROVIDE AUTOMATIC PASSENGER COUNTERS ON THE ENTIRE TRANSIT FLEET (2021-06-09/R-6)

WHEREAS, the Town of Chapel Hill is responsible for collecting accurate ridership data to meet federal requirements and local interests; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Chapel Hill is responsible for accurately reporting its ridership performance to multiple agencies to meet federal requirements; and

WHEREAS, to improve ease of data collection, automatic passenger counters should be applied to the entire fixed route fleet; and

WHEREAS, these counters must integrate with existing infrastructure, while being capable of adapting to future technologies, and Urban Transportation Associates is the only source for necessary data integration; and

WHEREAS, sole source purchases must be approved by the governing board of a political subdivision of the State pursuant to [N.C.G.S. 143-129\(e\) \(6\)](http://www.ncga.state.nc.us/gascripts/statutes/statutelookup.pl?statute=143-129) [.<http://www.ncga.state.nc.us/gascripts/statutes/statutelookup.pl?statute=143-129>](http://www.ncga.state.nc.us/gascripts/statutes/statutelookup.pl?statute=143-129).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Town of Chapel Hill that the Council authorizes the Town Manager to negotiate and execute a sole source contract to purchase automatic passenger counters and related installation support from Urban Transportation Associates.

This the 9th day of June, 2021.

The Agenda will reflect the text below and/or the motion text will be used during the meeting.

By adopting the resolution, the Council authorizes the Town Manager to negotiate and execute a sole source contract to purchase automatic passenger counters from Urban Transportation Associates.