

REGIONAL TRANSIT ISSUE PAPER

Agenda Item No.	Board Meeting Date	Open/Closed Session	Information/Action Item	Issue Date
10	07/27/15	Open	Action	06/12/15

Subject: Authorizing the Solicitation of Proposals for Federal Advocacy Services

ISSUE

Whether or not to authorize the solicitation of proposals for Federal Advocacy Services.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Adopt Resolution No. 15-07-_____, Authorizing the Solicitation of Proposals for Federal Advocacy Services.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact to the solicitation of proposals. The contract award will result in the expenditure of funds and will be presented to the Board as a future action.

DISCUSSION

On April 15, 2003, RT entered into an indefinite-term contract with Holland & Knight LLP (Holland & Knight) for federal lobbying services. Holland & Knight has assisted RT for the past 12 years in advancing RT's priority transit projects and past congressional appropriations requests, which included the South Sacramento Corridor Phase 2 light rail extension project, Bus Maintenance Facility Expansion, and Vehicle Replacement Programs.

Holland & Knight has informed RT staff of a key personnel change. The departing Holland & Knight employee, was the lead advocate for the majority of RT's interests and although he is still working under a contract agreement to serve Holland & Knight clients, Jeff Boothe has formed his own consulting firm, Boothe Transit Consulting, LLC (BTC). RT staff has determined that due to this organizational change, RT finds it necessary to revisit the current federal lobbying service contract and solicit proposals for a new federal advocacy contract.

As a public transit agency, RT is required to use a variety of means to ensure that RT's interests, specifically federal funding for RT's transit projects and operations, are proactively advanced in Washington D.C. The changing political environment in the nation's capital is challenging, and advocates heighten the visibility of RT's issues and objectives in securing federal transportation funding. RT staff is therefore recommending that the Board authorize the solicitation of proposals for Federal Advocacy Services to award a 3-year contract with an RT option to renew for two 1-year periods.

Approved:

Presented:

Final 07/21/15

General Manager/CEO

Assistant General Manager of Marketing and Communications
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2015\2015056_IP.AuthorizeSolicitationFederalAdvocacyServicesRFP.150727.doc

RESOLUTION NO. 15-07-_____

Adopted by the Board of Directors of the Sacramento Regional Transit District on this date:

July 27, 2015

AUTHORIZING THE SOLICITATION OF PROPOSALS FOR FEDERAL ADVOCACY SERVICES

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SACRAMENTO REGIONAL TRANSIT DISTRICT AS FOLLOWS:

THAT, the Request for Proposals for Federal Advocacy Services is hereby approved and authorized for release.

THAT, the Request for Proposals be advertised pursuant to the provisions of the RT Procurement Ordinance.

JAY SCHENIRER, Chair

A T T E S T:

MICHAEL R. WILEY, Secretary

By: _____
Cindy Brooks, Assistant Secretary