



STAFF REPORT

DATE: March 11, 2024
TO: Sacramento Regional Transit Board of Directors
FROM: Shelly Valenton, Deputy General Manager/CEO
SUBJ: APPROVING A SOLE SOURCE PROCUREMENT AND DELEGATING AUTHORITY TO THE GENERAL MANAGER/CEO TO EXECUTE CONTRACTS WITH URBAN TRANSPORTATION ASSOCIATES FOR SOFTWARE AND HARDWARE SUPPORT SERVICES AND SUPPLIES FOR AUTOMATIC PASSENGER COUNTERS

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt the Attached Resolution.

RESULT OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The proposed Resolution will allow the General Manager/CEO to enter into contracts with Urban Transportation Associates, Inc. (UTA), on a sole source basis, for ongoing hardware and software support for Automatic Passenger Counters (APC) that are critical to SacRT operations and National Transit Database (NTD) reporting.

FISCAL IMPACT

The cost of the current support proposal offered by UTA of \$10,737.32 for the remainder of this Fiscal Year is included in the Fiscal Year 2024 Operating Budget. Future Fiscal Year costs will be included in the Operating Budgets at an approximate cost of \$32,218 per year plus travel costs and taxes for the next two years based on the current proposal; these costs could change if additional services are determined to be needed. In addition, rates could increase in the future, since this delegation will be valid for the remaining life of the hardware and software.

DISCUSSION

In 2018, as a result of a competitive procurement, UTA was awarded a contract to provide SacRT a hardware APC system for light rail vehicles and to provide a centralized software reporting platform for all SacRT APC data. UTA included in its response an option for SacRT to extend the software reporting platform to bus as well. This option was exercised as part of the contract. The contract initially included installation on the UTDC and CAF light rail vehicles; the Second Amendment executed in April 2019 included the Siemens light rail vehicles as well. SacRT purchased the software platform but did not enter into a

contract with UTA for ongoing hardware, software, or professional support services (in its proposal, UTA offered as an alternative a Software as a Service contract, but that option was not selected by SacRT as part of the procurement process).

In 2021 SacRT executed a contract on a sole source basis for UTA's APC Software processes to be applied to APC data generated from the Dilax APC system operating on 54 buses in Elk Grove to allow for centralized data reporting.

UTA has been a leader and innovator in providing APC since 1981 and provides APC systems to large and small transit providers. UTA is an experienced provider of fully integrated APC hardware and software systems, improving transit through high quality analytics with mature hardware and proven software.

Today, SacRT operates the following APC systems:

- 225 buses | Clever Devices APC
- 93 light rail vehicles | UTA APC
- 54 Elk Grove buses | Dilax APC

Regardless of the APC hardware system installed on the vehicle, all raw APC data from SacRT buses and light rail vehicles is collected and processed by UTA's APC Software and UTA is SacRT's system of record for official passenger counts. UTA then generates critical agency reporting as well as mandatory reports required by the Federal Transit Administration's (FTA's) NTD program. UTA's centralized data collection and processing provides SacRT access to analytics to approximately 80 Reports/Analysis for bus, rail, AVL, farebox, manual, and mobile ticketing sources.

SacRT intends to include raw APC data from the new Siemens S700 light rail vehicles in the UTA software system.

As SacRT has used the UTA hardware and software systems since installation, it has identified ongoing support needs to maintain the functionality of both the UTA hardware and software, as well as the need for additional functionality. As the provider of both the hardware and software, UTA is best positioned to provide support services.

In addition, the UTA hardware system uses on-board hardware devices called LMUs to collect data from the APCs and provide GPS coordinates for tracking the location of the light rail vehicle. These devices have SacRT-specific flash memory and firmware and can only be obtained from UTA.

The UTA software system uses various channels to acquire data, such as direct file transfer and FTP from multiple sources. However, due to updates from other vendors or changes in infrastructure or communication at SacRT, SacRT must constantly monitor and adjust the data processing pipelines established by UTA to ensure timely and accurate processing of the data. Sometimes, SacRT must make software adjustments to account for missing data caused by breakdowns in communication, cellular issues, Wi-Fi issues, or device failures.

The currently proposed hardware support would include maintenance training, quarterly maintenance visits and ad hoc maintenance services as needed for maintenance of the light rail APC hardware.

The ability to provide reporting across multiple platforms, plus the number and complexity of integrations into current data systems across SacRT's networks, and staff familiarity all make UTA the best software system for continued use. SacRT needs to maintain continuity of its record keeping and ability to report data to the FTA and other internal and external partners in a consistent, conforming, and reliable manner. Transition to another system of record could be costly, burden limited IT resources and possibly disrupt reporting.

Approving this sole source justification and delegating authority to the General Manager/CEO would allow Staff to obtain support and parts needed to continue use of the system until such time as SacRT replaces the hardware and software system.

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-03-019

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

March 11, 2024

APPROVING A SOLE SOURCE PROCUREMENT AND DELEGATING AUTHORITY TO THE GENERAL MANAGER/CEO TO EXECUTE CONTRACTS WITH URBAN TRANSPORTATION ASSOCIATES FOR SOFTWARE AND HARDWARE SUPPORT SERVICES AND SUPPLIES FOR AUTOMATIC PASSENGER COUNTERS

WHEREAS, in 2018, after a competitive procurement, the Sacramento Regional Transit District ("SacRT") entered into a contract with Urban Transportation Associates, Inc. (UTA) to provide and install automatic passenger counters on SacRT's light rail vehicles and provide a centralized software solution to aggregate and report ridership data for both bus and light rail consistent with National Transit Database standards; and

WHEREAS, in 2021, as part of the annexation of the City of Elk Grove, SacRT entered into a sole source contract with UTA to integrate data from Dilax APC into the UTA software solution to have a single database and reporting solution; and

WHEREAS, SacRT has an ongoing need for additional software and hardware support services to maintain the functionality of the existing system; and

WHEREAS, as the provider of the software and hardware, UTA is uniquely positioned to perform the required support services; and

WHEREAS, SacRT requires proprietary parts that can only be obtained from UTA to preserve the functionality of the APC system on light rail vehicles.

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

THAT, pursuant to Section 1.405.B.2 of the Procurement Ordinance, the Board has determined that it is in the best interest of the Sacramento Regional Transit District to contract on a sole source basis UTA for software and hardware support services for UTA's Automatic Passenger Counters and software.

THAT, pursuant to Section 1.405.B.1 of the Procurement Ordinance, the supplies necessary to maintain the functionality of the UTA APC hardware are programmed with SacRT-specific flash memory and firmware can only be obtained from the UTA and it would be futile to seek competitive bids for these supplies.

THAT, notwithstanding the monetary limits set out in the Procurement Ordinance, authority is hereby delegated to the General Manager/CEO to enter into contracts with UTA for hardware and software support services (professional and non-professional services) and proprietary parts using non-federal funds for so long as SacRT continues to use UTA products.

PATRICK KENNEDY, Chair

A T T E S T:

HENRY LI, Secretary

By: _____
Tabetha Smith, Assistant Secretary