



Board Report

File #: 2017-0845, File Type: Contract

Agenda Number: 23.

SYSTEM SAFETY, SECURITY AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE FEBRUARY 15, 2018

**SUBJECT: METRO GREEN LINE FIBER OPTIC CABLE
FOR EMERGENCY TRIP SYSTEM**

ACTION: AWARD CONTRACT

RECOMMENDATION

AUTHORIZE the Chief Executive Officer to award Contract No. OP45636000 to JM Fiber Optics, Inc. to furnish and install fiber optic cable for the emergency trip system along the Metro Green Line (MGL) right-of-way, for a total amount of \$2,767,890, effective March 2018 through February 2020; subject to resolution of protest(s), if any.

ISSUE

The MGL Emergency Trip System (ETS) is equipped with obsolete analog telephone wires that are over 20 years old and have been in use since the start of MGL service in 1995. Portions of the ETS telephone wires are corroded and have begun to fail. They require replacement as they have reached the end of their useful life.

DISCUSSION

In case of an emergency, emergency trip switches are used for de-energization of traction power on the Overhead Catenary Systems (OCS) lines of the section where the emergency is occurring. The MGL ETS electrical cables have become unreliable due to their aging and excessive corrosion of the wire connections. This has caused MGL rail service interruption due to false tripping of the ETS and requires dispatched response by Wayside Maintenance Traction Power personnel for inspection/repair of wire circuits and reset of traction power feeder breakers. Further, existing ETS analog wires that are corroded are in violation of Los Angeles City Fire Code Regulations.

The scope of the work includes replacing the entire 24 gauge telephone wires with fiber optic cable along the entire right of way at connection points between passenger stations, traction power substations, and train control and communication rooms. The ETS fiber optic cable will also be integrated with recently upgraded digital Programmable Logic Controllers (PLC) for improved maintenance and enhanced ETS status indications. Fiber optic cable provides reliability given its sturdiness and does not degrade due to moisture or temperature fluctuations like the analog copper wires do.

DETERMINATION OF SAFETY IMPACT

Approval of the recommendation will have a positive impact on safety as the work scope will move forward to ensure compliance with Los Angeles City Fire Code Regulations. Further, maintaining the rail system in a State of Good Repair is essential to providing a safe and reliable service to riders who ride the Metro Rail system daily.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Funding for the contract amount of \$2,767,890 will come from Capital Project (CP) 205055 - Metro Green Line Emergency Trip System. The Board approved a Life-of-Project (LOP) budget of \$5,500,000 in April 2014. Funding of \$199,996 is included in the FY18 budget in cost center 3960 Transit Systems Engineering, project 205055, account 53102 - acquisition of equipment.

Since this is a multi-year contract, the Project Manager for CP 205055 will ensure that the balance of funds is budgeted in future fiscal years.

Impact to Budget

The source of funds for this procurement will come from TDA Article 4 funds that are eligible for Rail Capital Projects. Use of this funding source will maximize allowable funding allocation given funding provisions.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

The Board may choose not to award Contract No. OP45636000. This is not recommended by Metro staff because without proceeding to replace the ETS corroded analog wire with fiber optic cable, Metro will be in violation of Los Angeles City Fire Code Regulations. Further, additional false tripping nuisances will cause delays in MGL service as train movements will need to stop until repairs are completed. Not performing or postponing these replacements is not recommended as these rail infrastructure components are safety sensitive; and if not properly maintained, will impact service reliability, passenger safety and comfort. Additionally, unscheduled maintenance repair costs on a per component basis will result in higher operating costs versus reduced costs when performing work as scheduled.

NEXT STEPS

Upon Board approval, staff will execute Contract No. OP45636000 to JM Fiber Optics, Inc. to furnish and install fiber optic cables for the MGL ETS.

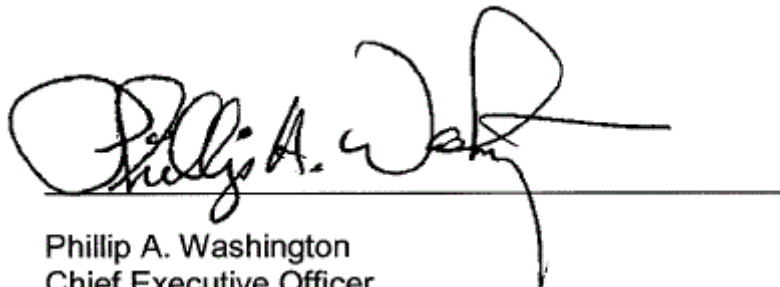
ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A - Procurement Summary

Attachment B - DEOD Summary

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Phillip A. Washington
Chief Executive Officer

PROCUREMENT SUMMARY

METRO GREEN LINE FIBER OPTIC CABLE FOR EMERGENCY TRIP
SYSTEM/OP45636000

1.	Contract Number: OP45636000	
2.	Recommended Vendor: JM Fiber Optics, Inc.	
3.	Type of Procurement (check one): <input type="checkbox"/> IFB <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RFP <input type="checkbox"/> RFP-A&E <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Competitive <input type="checkbox"/> Modification <input type="checkbox"/> Task Order	
4.	Procurement Dates:	
	A. Issued: August 16, 2017	
	B. Advertised/Publicized: August 17, 2017	
	C. Pre-Proposal Conference: August 23, 2017	
	D. Proposals Due: September 19, 2017	
	E. Pre-Qualification Completed: December 6, 2017	
	F. Conflict of Interest Form Submitted to Ethics: November 9, 2017	
	G. Protest Period End Date: February 19, 2018	
5.	Solicitations Picked up/Downloaded: 23	Bids/Proposals Received: 2
6.	Contract Administrator: Victor Zepeda	Telephone Number: (213) 922-1458
7.	Project Manager: Kelvin Zan	Telephone Number: (213) 617-6264

A. Procurement Background

This Board Action is to approve Contract No. OP45636000 for the furnishing and installation of fiber optic cables on Metro's Green Line Stations. Board approval of contract awards are subject to resolution of any properly submitted protest.

The RFP No. OP45636 was issued in accordance with Metro's Acquisition Policy and the contract type is a firm fixed price.

The period of performance is two years from March 2018 to February 2020.

A Pre-Proposal Conference was held August 23, 2017, with nine attendees representing seven companies.

Eight amendments were issued during the solicitation phase of this RFP:

- Amendment No. 1, issued on 8/17/17, clarified drawings on Appendix A;
- Amendment No. 2, issued on 8/22/17, clarified Green Line Station information;
- Amendment No. 3, issued on 8/25/17, clarified the Statement of Work, deleted a submittal form and extended the due date;
- Amendment No. 4, issued on 8/25/17, approved a product substitution;
- Amendment No. 5, issued on 9/5/17, extended the due date;

- Amendment No. 6, issued on 9/8/17, clarified the Statement of Work and extended the due date;
- Amendment No. 7, issued on 9/11/17, revised Schedule of Quantities and Prices; and
- Amendment No. 8, issued on 9/14/17, provided Product Information Sheet for an approved fiber optic substitution.

On September 19, 2017, Metro received two proposals as follows, in alphabetical order:

1. Birdi & Associates, Inc.
2. JM Fiber Optics, Inc.

B. Evaluation of Proposals

A Proposal Evaluation Team (PET) consisting of staff from Wayside Systems, Maintenance of Way, and Systems Safety was convened and conducted a comprehensive technical evaluation of the proposals received.

The proposals were evaluated based on the following evaluation criteria and weights:

- | | |
|---|-----------|
| • (Product) Minimum Qualifications | Pass/Fail |
| • Degree of the Prime's Skills and Experience | 20 Points |
| • Proposer's Team Experience | 25 Points |
| • Effectiveness of Execution Plan | 20 Points |
| • Cost Proposal | 35 Points |

The evaluation criteria are appropriate and consistent with criteria developed for other, similar furnish and install procurements.

Of the two proposals received, both firms passed the minimum qualifications and were determined to be within the competitive range.

During the week of November 6, 2017, the PET met and interviewed the firms. The firms' project managers and key team members had an opportunity to present each team's qualifications and respond to the PET's questions. In general, each team's presentation addressed the requirements of the RFP, experience with all aspects of the required tasks, and stressed each firm's commitment to the success of the project. Also highlighted were staffing plans, work plans, and perceived project challenges. At the conclusion of interviews, each firm was requested to submit a Best and Final Offer (BAFO).

Qualifications Summary of Firms within the Competitive Range:

Birdi & Associates, Inc.

Birdi & Associates, Inc. (Birdi) is a Metro-certified SBE firm based out of Pasadena, CA that provides engineering consulting and contracting services. Birdi has experience providing and installing fiber optic cable for several public agencies including Metro. Birdi has performed satisfactorily for Metro.

JM Fiber Optics, Inc.

JM Fiber Optics (JM) is a Metro-certified SBE firm based out of Chino, CA. JM has been providing fiber optic and wireless product systems since 1992. JM has satisfactorily completed several similar projects for Metro.

The following is a summary of the PET’s evaluation scores:

1	Firm	Average Score	Factor Weight	Weighted Average Score	Rank
2	JM Fiber Optic, Inc.				
3	(Product) Minimum Qualifications	Pass		Pass	
4	Degree of the Prime Skills/Experience	82.50	20.00%	16.50	
5	Proposer Team Experience	80.80	25.00%	20.20	
6	Effectiveness of Execution Plan	76.65	20.00%	15.33	
7	Cost	100.00	35.00%	35.00	
8	Total		100.00%	87.03	1
9	Birdi & Associates, Inc.				
10	(Product) Minimum Qualifications	Pass		Pass	
11	Degree of the Prime Skills/Experience	80.85	20.00%	16.17	
12	Proposer Team Experience	85.20	25.00%	21.30	
13	Effectiveness of Execution Plan	80.50	20.00%	16.10	
14	Cost	86.57	35.00%	30.30	
15	Total		100.00%	83.87	2

C. Cost/Price Analysis

The recommended price has been determined to be fair and reasonable based upon adequate competition, a comparison with Metro's independent cost estimate, and technical evaluation by the Project Management Team.

	Proposer Name	Proposal Amount	Metro ICE	BAFO Amount
1.	JM Fiber Optic, Inc.	\$2,767,890	\$2,352,250	\$2,767,890
2.	Birdi & Associates, Inc.	\$3,208,811		\$3,197,725

The PET determined that when considering price and non-price factors, JM's proposal provides the Best Value and is most advantageous to Metro.

D. Background on Recommended Contractor

The recommended firm, JM Fiber Optics, Inc. (JM), located in Chino, CA, has been in business for 26 years in the field of providing and installing fiber optics.

JM has completed several projects for Metro since 2014, two of which are similar in complexity and size. JM is proposing for this project a 20-year veteran in fiber optic systems as its Project Manager. In addition, JM proposed the lowest price to complete the services required.

JM also proposed an SBE subcontractor, Global Electric, to perform cabling installation.

DEOD SUMMARY

**METRO GREEN LINE FIBER OPTIC CABLE FOR EMERGENCY TRIP
SYSTEM/OP45636000**

A. Small Business Participation

Pursuant to Metro's Board-approved policy, competitive acquisitions with three or more Small Business Enterprise (SBE) certified firms within the specified North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) as identified for the project scope shall constitute a Small Business Set-Aside procurement. Accordingly, the Contract Administrator advanced the solicitation, including posting the solicitation on Metro's website, advertising, and notifying certified small businesses as identified by NAICS code(s) that this solicitation was open to **SBE Certified Small Businesses Only**.

JM Fiber Optics, Inc., an SBE Prime, is performing 49.17% with its own workforce and made a total SBE commitment of 100%. The prime also listed one (1) SBE firm, Global Electric, as a subcontractor on this project.

SMALL BUSINESS PRIME (SET-ASIDE)

	SBE Contractors	SBE % Committed
1.	JM Fiber Optics, Inc. (Prime)	49.17%
2.	Global Electric	50.83%
	Total Commitment	100%

B. Living Wage and Service Contract Worker Retention Policy Applicability

The Living Wage and Service Contract Worker Retention Policy is not applicable to this Contract.

C. Prevailing Wage Applicability

Prevailing Wage requirements are applicable to this project. DEOD will monitor contractors' compliance with the State of California Department of Industrial Relations (DIR), California Labor Code, and, if federally funded, the U S Department of Labor (DOL) Davis Bacon and Related Acts (DBRA).

D. Project Labor Agreement/Construction Careers Policy

Project Labor Agreement/Construction Careers Policy is not applicable to this Contract.