



ITEM ID: 2023-295-0

TRANSMITTAL DATE: September 15, 2023

MEETING DATE: September 22, 2023

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Arnold Hackett, Chief Financial Officer
Justin Fornelli, Chief, Program Delivery

SUBJECT: Contract No. E753-24 - Positive Train Control (PTC) Communications and Signal Systems Design and Engineering Services - Recommendation to Award - Pacific Railway Enterprises, Inc. (PRE)

Issue

The authority is seeking a consultant to provide continued on-call Positive Train Control (PTC) and signal systems design and engineering services to support the Authority's service area.

Recommendation

Contracts, Operations, Maintenance, and Safety Committee recommended (5-0) the Board authorize the Chief Executive Officer to award Contract No. E753-24 for the PTC Communications and Signal Systems Design and Engineering Services, to the single proposer, Pacific Railway Enterprises, Inc. (PRE), for a contract funding authority amount not-to-exceed \$25,000,000 with a base term of three years, with one two-year option. Work under this contract will be authorized through the Contract Task Order (CTO) process on an as-needed basis.

Strategic Commitment

This report aligns with the Strategic Business plan commitment of:

- **Safety is Foundational:** The project will include and implement new PTC Communications and Signal Systems Technologies to enhance the safety and security of our riders, employees and the communities that we serve.

Background

On-call PTC communications and signal systems design and engineering services are needed on a wide variety of capital improvements and state of good repair projects. PTC communication and signal systems design and engineering services are envisioned to include Signal Design Services, PTC Wayside and On-Board Communications and Signal Systems Support Services, Communications Systems Design, At Grade Crossing Design and Traffic Interface Services, Construction Support Services, Field Surveying, and Environmental Support. The Current On-Call signal and communications design services Contract No. E742-16 will expire on October 31, 2023.

The Program Delivery, PTC Communications, Track, and Communications and Signal departments anticipate as-needed PTC communication and signal systems design and engineering services for a wide variety of projects during the next five years to support the SCORE, state of good repair programs, and third-party projects.

This contract will be Contract Task Order (CTO) based to direct and control services on a per project basis. Staff has successfully used the CTO process to manage the previous on-call professional engineering design services bench contracts. This process enables staff to define the projects tasks, monitor and control the associated costs.

Discussion

On May 11, 2023, staff issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) No. E753-24, seeking a consultant to provide PTC Communications and Signal Systems Design and Engineering Services. The RFP was posted on the Authority's online procurement portal and notifications were sent to 1,179 registered firms and 57 prospective proposers viewed the RFP on PlanetBids.

A single proposal from PRE was received on June 23, 2023. Staff conducted a survey to determine why prospective proposers did not respond, and the main reason was they did not have the qualified staff to perform the required services. The evaluation panel consisting of three Authority staff from Program Delivery, Positive Train Control, and Signal and Communications Systems, in addition to two experts from other local agencies, evaluated the proposal and deemed that the proposal met the minimum technical proposal score. The panel unanimously voted to recommend awarding the contract to PRE.

PRE is one of the Authority's current PTC and Signal Systems Design and Engineering consultants and has provided satisfactory performance on the Authority projects. Additionally, PRE has proposed qualified staff with fair and reasonable rates, which are lower than the independent cost estimate rates.

As a DBE consultant, PRE also committed to meeting the contract DBE-specific goal of 9.15%.

Budget Impact

Funding for PTC Communication and Signal Systems Design and Engineering Services will be funded using Federal, State, local, annual maintenance-of-way, new capital, state of good repair, and third-party re-collectable funds as approved through the annual budget process. Actual funding commitments for those projects handled through the CTO process are encumbered on a per project basis at the time the individual CTO is approved and issued. There is no financial commitment with respect to subsequent years and work will be authorized only if funding is approved.

Next Steps

Upon Board approval, the contract will be executed, and staff will provide a Notice to Proceed.

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Approved by: Arnold Hackett, Chief Financial Officer
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