THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE

STAFF REPORT

Council Meeting Date: April 27, 2021

Subject: Sole Source Procurement of Safety Protection Barriers

Staff Resource(s): Ken Putnam, PE, Transportation Department Director;
Jessica Morriss, AICP, Assistant Transportation Department Director;
Eunice Lovi, Transit Planning Manager

Action Requested: Adoption of a resolution supporting the sole source procurement to purchase safety protection barriers from Proterra Aftermarket Parts for installation in five (5) existing Proterra electric buses in the Asheville Rides Transit (ART) fleet.

Background:

- On May 12, 2020, the City Council adopted a resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute a purchase order of approximately $140,000 for work for Proterra to engineer, design, retrofit, and install safety protection barriers from AROW Global Corporation, the manufacturer of the safety protection barriers, in five (5) existing 35-foot electric buses.
- A sole source procurement through Proterra Aftermarket Parts is necessary to ensure that the safety barriers are designed and installed correctly to fit the inside configuration of the existing Proterra electric buses that the City of Asheville owns.
- AROW Global Corporation is Proterra's approved provider of the safety protection barriers.
- CARES Act funds will be used to purchase and install safety protection barriers in the buses.
- The use of sole-source procurement is permitted in this instance pursuant to N.C.G.S. 143-129(e)(g)(iii) as equipment compatibility is an overriding concern.

Council Goal(s):

- Transportation and Accessibility

Committee(s):

- None

Pro(s):

- Provides protection for transit bus drivers
- Uses CARES Act funding to purchase and install the safety protection barriers in the Proterra electric buses.
- No local match is required.

Con(s):

- None

Fiscal Impact:

- The CARES Act provides 100% of the funding with no local match required.
- The budget for this purchase was adopted at City Council's May 12, 2020, meeting.

Suggested Motion:

- Motion to adopt a resolution supporting the sole source procurement to purchase safety protection barriers from Proterra Aftermarket Parts for installation in five (5) existing Proterra electric buses in the Asheville Rides Transit (ART) fleet.

Attachment(s):

- Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. 21 -_____

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING SOLE SOURCE PROCUREMENT TO PURCHASE SAFETY PROTECTION BARRIERS FROM PROTERRA AFTERMARKET PARTS FOR INSTALLATION IN FIVE (5) EXISTING PROTERRA ELECTRIC BUSES IN THE ASHEVILLE RIDES TRANSIT FLEET.

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.C.G.S. §160A-17.1, the City is authorized to make contracts for and accept grants and loans form the federal and state governments and their agencies; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) has announced Notice for Supplemental FY 2020 5307 under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act for funding transit operations and capital projects that help transit systems to prevent, prepare for, and respond to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the City of Asheville has identified projects that would be eligible for this funding program that would fund related transit capital projects activities responding to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the City of Asheville has received quotes from Proterra Aftermarket Parts for safety protection barriers for installation in five (5) existing Proterra electric transit buses and requests approval of procuring the safety protection barriers using a sole source procurement to comply with all applicable Federal and State procurement requirements; and

WHEREAS, the use of sole-source procurement is permitted in this instance pursuant to N.C.G.S. 143-129(e)(g)(iii) as equipment compatibility is an overriding concern; and

WHEREAS, the FTA will reimburse grant applicants for up to 100 percent ot transit operations and capital cost of projects implemented with CARES Act funds; and

WHEREAS, the FTA has indicated that no local match would be needed for projects related to COVID-19;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE THAT:

A sole source justification for safety protection barriers from Proterra Aftermarket Parts for installation in five (5) existing Proterra electric buses in the Asheville Rides Transit (ART) fleet is approved and the Purchasing Manager is authorized to issue appropriate purchase orders.

Read, approved and adopted this 27th day of April, 2021.

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City Clerk Mayor

Approved as to form:

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City Attorney