THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE

STAFF REPORT

Council Meeting Date: November 10, 2020

Subject: Sole Source Procurement of Motorola Radios for Asheville Rides Transit (ART) Operations.

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 authorizing the City Purchasing Manager to procure new radios through Motorola Solutions, Inc. for Asheville Rides Transit (ART) operations using sole source procurement as permitted under N. C. G. S. 143-129(e)(6).

Background:

- During September 2020, Motorola Solutions, Inc. notified the City that the transit system's existing on-board and handheld radios will no longer be serviced because they have exceeded their 10-year service life.
- A sole source procurement through Motorola Solutions, Inc. is needed to ensure compatibility with existing transit operations equipment and other City of Asheville radio equipment.
- Motorola Solutions, Inc. has provided a quote with an estimated total project cost of $158,098.20.

Council Goal(s):

- Transportation and Accessibility

Committee(s):

- None

Pro(s):

- Replaces equipment that has exceeded its 10-year service life.
- The new equipment is expected to have a 10-year service life.
- Ensures continuous communication between ART's drivers and dispatchers including emergency situations.
- Federal Funds will provide 80% of the project cost.

Con(s):

- None

Fiscal Impact:

- The total purchase cost is $158,098.20.
- An existing FTA grant will be used to fund 80% ($126,478.56) of the purchase and the Transit Capital Fund budget will be used to provide the 20% match ($31,619.64).
- Both the grant and the City match are already budgeted in the Transit Capital Fund.

Suggested Motion:

- Motion to adopt a resolution authorizing the City Purchasing Manager to procure new radios using sole source procurement through Motorola Solutions, Inc. for Asheville Rides Transit (ART) operations.

Attachment(s)

- Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. 20 -_____

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY PURCHASING MANAGER TO PROCURE NEW RADIOS USING SOLE SOURCE PROCUREMENT THROUGH MOTOROLA SOLUTIONS, INC. FOR ASHEVILLE RIDES TRANSIT OPERATIONS.

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, N.C.G.S § 143-129 details procedures for letting of public contracts; and

WHEREAS, N.C.G.S. § 143(e)(6) provides for an exception to the requirement for formal bids for procurement contracts, stating that governing body of a political subdivision of the State shall approve the purchase or apparatus, supplies, materials or equipment without formal bidding when a needed product is available from only one source of supply or standardization or compatibility is the overriding consideration; and

WHEREAS, the City of Asheville has received a quote from Motorola Solutions, Inc. to purchase replacement radios to replace existing radios for installation in ART's buses and for use by dispatch, and requests approval to procure the new radios using a sole source procurement to comply with all applicable Federal and State procurement requirements; and

WHEREAS, the City of Asheville will utilize existing FTA grant funds to facilitate the purchase, the FTA will reimburse grant applicants for up to eighty percent (80%) of capital cost of projects implemented with FTA transit grant funds, which requires a twenty percent (20%) local match which has already been budgeted within the City's Transit Capital Fund;

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

City Council hereby authorizes the City Purchasing Manager to procure new radios through Motorola Solutions, Inc. for Asheville Rides Transit (ART) operations using sole source procurement as permitted under N.C.G.S. 143-129(e)(6).

Read, approved and adopted this 10 day of November 2020.

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City Clerk Mayor

Approved as to form:

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City Attorney