THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE

STAFF REPORT

Council Meeting Date: May 26, 2020

Subject: Transit Center Digital Signage Contract with GMV Syncromatics

Staff Resource(s): Ken Putnam, Transportation Department Director
Jessica Morriss, Assistant Transportation Department Director

Action Requested: Adoption of a resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute a contract with GMV Syncromatics in an amount not to exceed $188,068 to provide digital real-time arrival/departure signage at the downtown transit center.

Background:

- The City of Asheville is currently in the process of renovating various aspects of the downtown transit station at 49 Coxe Ave.
- Recently completed portions of the renovation project include a complete renovation of the interior waiting room and ART staff space; new paint, furniture, and lighting on the platform, and new static signage for the platform bays and building.
- Outstanding items include the addition of solar panels to the roof (to be completed this summer), ADA improvements to the sidewalks and ramps adjacent to the transit station on the west side, and the addition of digital real-time arrival/departure signage to improve the rider experience.
- The City issued a request for proposals February 13, 2020,and received 5 proposals.
- The vendor was selected by a committee of transit staff from the City, ART and City IT staff.
- Installation of the signage will be done under a separate city contract.

Vendor Outreach Efforts:

- A Request for Proposals was issued and posted on the City's bid page as well as the State Department of Administration Historically Underutilized Business website.
- No bids were received from disadvantaged or minority businesses.
- Electrical work and installation of the signage will be bid separately and will include additional outreach to local disadvantaged and minority businesses.

Council Goal(s):

- Transportation and Accessibility.

Committee(s):

- None

Pro(s):

- Digital signage will be placed at the transit center inside the passenger waiting area and outside on the platform to provide riders with real-time transit arrival and departure information, as well as rider alerts and messages.
- The digital signage will improve the rider experience and provide additional opportunities for the City and ART to communicate with riders.

Con(s):

- The cost of the signage.

Fiscal Impact:

- The contract is for 3 years with options to renew for two additional years for a total of 5 years.

- The total 5 year cost of the contract is $188,068. This includes $137,573 in hardware and $6,995 in annual software licensing, support, and maintenance fees for the first year. Years 2 through 5 would include an annual payment of $10,875 for software licensing, support and maintenance.
- The contract allows for additional signage purchases to be made as funding is available in order to expand the system.
- The hardware component ($137,573) of the project is to be funded primarily through previously awarded Federal Transit Administration funds budgeted as part of the transit center renovation project. The City is responsible for 20% of this cost ($27,514), which is also budgeted in that same capital project. Annual maintenance, support and licensing fees are included in the Transit Operations Fund budget and will be funded with City funds.

Suggested Motion:

- Motion to adopt a resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute a contract with GMV Syncromatics in an amount not to exceed $188,068 to provide digital real-time arrival/departure signage at the downtown transit center.

Attachment(s)

- Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. 20-____

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT WITH GMV SYNCROMATICS TO PROVIDE DIGITAL REAL-TIME ARRIVAL/DEPARTURE SIGNAGE AT THE DOWNTOWN TRANSIT CENTER

WHEREAS, the City of Asheville has authority pursuant to N.C.G.S. §143 -129 for letting of public contracts; and

WHEREAS, the City of Asheville issued a competitive request for proposals for the purpose of selecting a vendor to provide real-time digital signage for the transit center and the transit system overall;

WHEREAS, the City of Asheville has selected GMV Syncromatics to provide the real-time digital signage under a 3-year contract with options to renew for two additional years;

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

City Council hereby authorizes the City Manager to execute a contract with GMV Syncromatics in an amount not to exceed $188,068 to provide digital real-time arrival and departure signage at the downtown transit center.

Read, approved and adopted this the 26th day of May, 2020.

_____ _____

City Clerk Mayor

Approved as to form:

_____

City Attorney