

Date: May 26, 2021

To: Board of Directors

From: Sam Desue, Jr.

Subject: RESOLUTION NO. 21-05-20 OF THE TRI-COUNTY METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT OF OREGON (TRIMET) AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH TAIT COMMUNICATIONS FOR RADIO SYSTEM MANAGED SERVICES

1. Purpose of Item

This Resolution requests that the TriMet Board of Directors (Board) authorize the Interim General Manager or his designee to execute a contract with Tait Communications (Tait) for Radio System Managed Services (Contract).

2. Type of Agenda Item

- Initial Contract
- Contract Modification
- Other:

3. Type of Contract Procurement

- Low Bid / Invitation to Bid (ITB)
- Request for Proposals (RFP) (inc. CM/GC)
- Request for Qualifications (RFQ) (Personal Services)
- Other (inc. sole source): Sole Source

4. Reason for Board Action

Board authorization is required for all goods and services contracts obligating TriMet to pay in excess of \$1,000,000.

5. Type of Action

- Resolution
- Ordinance 1st Reading
- Ordinance 2nd Reading
- Other _____

6. Background

TriMet's Land Mobile Radio (LMR) System is a mission critical, high priority system. It is essential to TriMet operations and supports approximately 2,568 users, split in the following ways:

- 769 Fixed Route Bus mobile radios
- 250 Light Rail Train mobile radios
- 112 Non-Revenue mobile radios (e.g., Field Supervisor)
- 284 LIFT paratransit mobile radios

- 1056 portable radios for supervisors, rail operators, safety, security and other personnel on foot
- 97 mobile radios installed in fixed locations for operations and inside buildings

The system comprises nine sites, two of which are control sites and seven of which are radio sites, interconnected by a combination of the TriMet private microwave links and the TriMet IT fiber network:

- Center Street – Primary Control (High Availability Node)
- Junction – Backup Control (Cold Standby Node)
- Council Crest - Radio Site 1
- Mount Scott - Radio Site 2
- Pete’s Mountain - Radio Site 3
- Polivka - Radio Site 4
- Bald Peak - Radio Site 5
- Livingston - Radio Site 6
- Hillsboro - Radio Site 7

The TAIT P25 radio network is comprised of infrastructure manufactured by AirBus, AVTEC radio consoles, and Tait portable and mobile radios. This new system provides sufficient capacity for all TriMet operations. In June 2018, the Board approved a sole source contract with Harris Corporation for the management and monitoring of the mobile radio network.

7. **Description of Procurement Process**

TriMet entered into the previous contract with Harris, who subcontracted the work to Tait. This was the result of a strategic partnership between Harris and Tait, under which North American entities could no longer contract directly with Tait. That partnership has since ended and North American entities may now contract with Tait. Therefore, this Resolution authorizes a sole-source contract for radio network managed services by Tait, as the only authorized service provider for Tait products.

The pricing for the new contract is based on the previous pricing, with increases to account for inflation and additional monitoring services. Pricing was deemed fair and reasonable based on previous prices paid, as well as a review of prices paid by other agencies for similar services.

8. **Diversity**

Tait Communications currently employs approximately 60 people, 26 of whom are women or minorities. Additionally, two of the top three upper management roles are held by women and/or minorities. Six out of ten members of the Regional Leadership Team are women and/or minorities.

9. **Financial/Budget Impact**

The total Contract value will be \$1,056,000 (\$352,000 per year) over three years. The first year Contract amount is accounted for in TriMet’s Information Technology Budget for FY2022.

10. **Impact if Not Approved**

TriMet could seek to procure these services on the open market. However, the radio system implemented by TriMet is designed for transit use and is not a standard LMR configuration. Tait Communications is uniquely qualified to provide these services, is better situated to respond to the needs of the system, and does so at the most cost-effective price. This is a critical system that must continue to be monitored and managed 24/7.

RESOLUTION NO. 21-05-20

**RESOLUTION NO. 21-05-20 OF THE TRI-COUNTY METROPOLITAN
TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT OF OREGON (TRIMET) AUTHORIZING A
CONTRACT WITH TAIT COMMUNICATIONS FOR RADIO SYSTEM
MANAGED SERVICES**

WHEREAS, TriMet has authority under ORS 267.200 to enter into a contract with Tait Communications (Tait) for Radio System Managed Services (Contract); and

WHEREAS, the total amount of the Contract will exceed \$1,000,000; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution dated October 25, 2017, the TriMet Board of Directors (Board) adopted a Statement of Policies requiring the Board to authorize goods and services contracts obligating TriMet to pay in excess of \$1,000,000;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That the Contract shall conform with applicable law.
2. That the Interim General Manager or his designee is authorized to execute the Contract in the amount of not more than \$1,056,000, for a three-year term.

Dated: May 26, 2021

Presiding Officer

Attest:

Recording Secretary

Approved as to Legal Sufficiency:

Gregory E. Skillman
Legal Department