

**Date:** September 25, 2024

**To:** Board of Directors

**From:** Sam Desue, Jr.

**Subject:** **RESOLUTION NO. 24-09-55 OF THE TRI-COUNTY METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT OF OREGON (TRIMET) AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH BRIDGE DATA SOLUTIONS FOR IT SERVER AND STORAGE HARDWARE, SOFTWARE, AND RELATED SERVICES**

**1. Purpose of Item**

This Resolution requests that the TriMet Board of Directors (Board) authorize the General Manager or his designee to execute a contract with Bridge Data Solutions (BDS) for Information Technology Server and Storage Hardware, Software, and Related Services.

**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)

**4. Reason for Board Action**

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

**5. Type of Action**

- Resolution
- Ordinance 1<sup>st</sup> Reading
- Ordinance 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

**6. Background**

The TriMet Information Technology Division is responsible for providing and maintaining the core information technologies that support TriMet’s operations. TriMet operates two data centers, as well as smaller local installations and facilities co-located with key service providers. Key functions supported by TriMet’s server infrastructure include processing and storage of CCTV footage; dispatch and control systems for bus, rail, and LIFT; TriMet’s communications infrastructure, including phone, radio, and data communications; enterprise applications, including our Oracle system for financial and human capital management; and

hundreds of other applications. In order to support reliable service delivery and maximize the value derived from TriMet's investment in infrastructure, hardware is replaced as it reaches the end of its useful life, and software that supports the infrastructure is kept up to date on a regular schedule. In addition, capacity is regularly increased as demand for storage, computing, and networking continues to grow.

On March 22, 2017, Resolution No. 17-03-24 authorized the issuance of a contract with BDS for \$782,166 for a base term of one year, with four one-year options at TriMet's discretion. The total amount of the contract was \$3,910,828. This contract was subsequently modified by Resolutions No.19-07-54 and No. 21-12-52, resulting in an increase of the total contract amount to \$7,110,828. BDS proved to be a well-qualified Value Added Reseller (VAR) of goods and services for the agency. Its last contract expired March 26, 2022.

Since that time, TriMet has utilized existing cooperative contracts to meet the Agency's needs for these goods and services. While these contracts have provided favorable pricing, TriMet seeks a new contract in order to gain the most benefit from working directly with a VAR. In addition to continuing favorable pricing, a new contract would let TriMet engage with the selected vendor for assistance in designing, implementing, and supporting technology acquired through the contract.

## **7. Description of Procurement Process**

TriMet issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) on July 10, 2024, with proposals due on August 12, 2024. A total of 483 vendors were notified of the RFP via the TriP\$ website. Three vendors submitted proposals: BDS, Presidio Networked Solutions Group (Presidio), and Sigma Consultants Group (Sigma).

A Source Evaluation Committee (SEC) comprised of staff from TriMet's Information Technology Division reviewed and evaluated the proposals. The evaluation criteria included: (1) Qualifications of the Proposer (15 possible points); (2) Qualifications of Staff (15 possible points); (3) Diversity in Employment and Contracting (20 possible points); and (4) Understanding of the Work (50 possible points).

Rates were evaluated for reasonableness, but not scored, because the resulting contract will be capped at \$8,000,000 for a five-year term. After evaluating the proposals, rate proposals were opened to establish reasonableness. BDS and Presidio's rates were found to be reasonable. Sigma's rates were lacking because it failed to submit pricing for all areas. Best and Final Offers (BAFOs) were not requested from the vendors because the resulting contract will be capped at \$8,000,000 and the two highest scored proposers submitted rates that are within industry standards.

Overall scores of the firms are summarized below:

	Possible Points	Bridge Data Solutions	Presidio Networked Solutions Group	Sigma Consultants Group
<i>Evaluation Criteria</i>				
Qualifications of Proposer	15	14.00	13.60	9.20
Qualifications of Staff	15	13.20	13.20	8.30
Diversity in Employment & Contracting	20	7.50	9.10	17.80
Understanding of the Work	50	46.20	40.80	29.60
<b>Technical Proposal Totals . . .</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>80.90</b>	<b>76.70</b>	<b>64.90</b>

The SEC was unanimous in its decision to award a contract to BDS. It was not only the most highly qualified vendor, but also the best suited to meet TriMet's needs.

The proposed contract would be for a five-year term, with TriMet retaining the unilateral option to terminate for convenience, for any reason, during the contract term. Expenditures under the contract will be based on TriMet's actual need, which will vary annually depending on the number of Task Orders awarded to the vendor.

The total price of the contract compares favorably with TriMet's Independent Cost Estimate (ICE) of \$8,000,000 for a five-year contract term for this procurement. The ICE was based on TriMet's best estimate of the number of Task Orders to be issued for the work needing to be completed, at the rates paid for pricing (including escalation) for similar Information Technology VAR work.

**8. Diversity**

Of the 20 full-time employees, BDS's workforce is 15% female and 10% minority. Subcontractors will not be used to perform work under this contract.

**9. Financial/Budget Impact**

The total amount of the contract will be capped at \$8,000,000 over the five-year contract term. The goods and services will be paid for as provided in the TriMet's approved annual budget.

**10. Impact if Not Approved**

If this request for contract is not approved, the direct cost of purchasing the hardware and software resources required by the agency would increase, because TriMet would be unable to access favorable pricing, and would need to pay separately for solutions consultation and post-sale support. The complexity of generating a direct-to-vendor contract for each hardware or software acquisition would add significant labor cost overhead to the Information Technology Division's internal Operations & Infrastructure, Procurement and Contracts teams.

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**WHEREAS**, TriMet has authority under ORS 267.200 to enter into a contract with Bridge Data Solutions (BDS) for Information Technology Server and Storage Hardware, Software, and Related Services (Contract); and

**WHEREAS**, by Resolution No. 22-05-35, dated May 25, 2022, the TriMet Board of Directors (Board) adopted a Statement of Policies requiring the Board to authorize all contracts obligating TriMet to pay in excess of \$1,000,000; and

**WHEREAS**, the total amount of the Contract exceeds \$1,000,000;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:**

1. That the Contract shall conform with applicable law.
2. That the General Manager or his designee is authorized to execute a Contract with BDS in the amount of \$8,000,000, with the total amount paid to be based on actual services performed, through the Contract's September 30, 2029 expiration date.

Dated: September 25, 2024

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Presiding Officer

Attest:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Recording Secretary

Approved as to Legal Sufficiency:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Legal Department