



Metro

Metropolitan Transportation Authority

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**SYSTEM SAFETY AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE
SEPTEMBER 20, 2012**

SUBJECT: NEXTRIP REAL-TIME RAIL ARRIVAL INFORMATION SYSTEM

ACTION: APPROVE CONTRACT AMENDMENT

RECOMMENDATION

Authorize the Chief Executive Officer to execute Modification No. 1 to Contract No. OP39612514 with NextBus Inc., to expand the Nextrip real-time bus arrival information system to rail through 2016 in the amount of \$628,862, increasing the total Contract Value from \$1,649,900 to \$2,278,762.

ISSUE

Contract No. OP39612514 was approved by the Board on September 16, 2010 to implement a real-time bus arrival information system. Metro's Nextrip arrival information system has been operational for about one year and has been very popular with transit riders with almost two million hits per month being logged by patrons. While the Nextrip program continues to grow with additional on-street signage, mobile app development and customer awareness, it is clear that Metro's patrons have embraced these new technology tools.

The recommended contract modification would expand the current Nextrip bus program to include real-time rail arrival information. More specifically, this modification would provide similar distribution of rail arrival time via station signage, mobile, text, web and smartphone to the public. The bus/rail arrival information will be made available for all vehicles and all rail lines in Metro's fleet. In addition to being a tool to aid commuters, the extension of service to rail would provide Metro's staff with reporting, mapping and monitoring tools to assist Metro's customer service and fleet supervisors improve service performance.

DISCUSSION

Real-time bus/rail arrival information is the predicted data (time in minutes) when a particular vehicle will arrive at a particular stop. Nextbus, Inc. will provide real-time-information to the public by using a predictive algorithm to determine how long it will

take for the next vehicle to arrive at any given location and disseminate the information to the public. For this modification, NextBus will expand its current hosting services to generate the predictive information (based on Metro's fleet location information) and distribute through various communication channels including web, rail-to-bus connection information, mobile devices, and Metro partners (511, app developers, etc.).

Nextrip will interface with the Southern California 511 system as well as our own metro.net in order to continue a cohesive strategy that maximizes the availability and user-friendliness of real-time information to the public. The hosted service also provides the flexibility to push the data distribution to third party mobile application developers which increases Metro's ability to more readily adapt and change as new technology improvements come to market and to maximize the dissemination of our transit arrival information through a variety of different channels.

Nextrip provides the framework for a public information dissemination strategy that is under development. This strategy will include a variety of methods to display the real-time information to the public such as shared or retrofitted bus or rail display signs at rail stations, on-street signs (static and dynamic) where appropriate, kiosks, transit centers, major transfer hubs, rapid line coordination, and mobile access in rail tunnels via cell/wifi, etc. Dissemination of bus and rail arrival information through the various methods will be phased-in upon availability and priority of funding with the intent of providing information where patrons need it most.

DETERMINATION OF SAFETY IMPACT

Providing real-time arrival information to transit riders, especially during late night operation, provides an enhanced sense of safety and security to our customers.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The proposed contract change amount for this effort is \$628,862. Funding of \$400,000 for this recommended contract modification is included in the FY13 budget in cost center 9210, Information Management under Project 300040, Systemwide Rail Operations, line item 50316 – Professional and Technical Services. Since this is a multi-year contract, the cost center manager, project manager, and Chief Information Officer will ensure that the remaining funds are budgeted in future years.

Impact to Budget

The current year of funding for this recommended contract award will come from operating funds. FY13 expenditures are not expected to exceed the budgeted amount. On-going operating funds are required to support this contract and will be included in future annual budgets.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

The Board could decide not to award or to postpone this contract. However, this is not recommended as the proposed contract modification supports one of the most broad-based, customer focused, public service transit tools available countywide.

NEXT STEPS

The goal of the recommended contract modification is to have real-time rail arrival information via station signage, web, text-message, smartphone and telephone in early 2013.

ATTACHMENT:

A. Procurement Summary

Prepared by: Al Martinez, Supervising Engineer

Questions: Michelle Stewart, Assistant Administrative Analyst, Operations
(213) 922-7270

Michelle Lopes Caldwell

Michelle Lopes Caldwell
Chief Administrative Services Officer

Frank Alejandro
Chief Operations Officer

Arthur T. Leahy

for Arthur T. Leahy
Chief Executive Officer

PROCUREMENT SUMMARY

Nextrip Real-Time Bus and Rail Arrival Information System

1.	Contract Number: OP39612514	
2.	Recommended Vendor: Nextbus, Inc.	
3.	Type of Procurement (check one): <input type="checkbox"/> IFB <input type="checkbox"/> RFP <input type="checkbox"/> RFP-A&E <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Competitive <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Modification <input type="checkbox"/> Task Order	
4.	Procurement Dates:	
	A. Issued: February 7, 2012	
	B. Advertised/Publicized: N/A	
	C. Pre-proposal Conference: N/A	
	D. Proposals Due: March 6, 2012	
	E. Pre-Qualification Completed: N/A	
	F. Conflict of Interest Form Submitted to Ethics: N/A	
	G. Protest Period End Date: N/A	
5.	Solicitations Picked up/Downloaded: N/A	Proposals Received: N/A
6.	Contract Administrator: Nicole Dang	Telephone Number: 213-922-7438
7.	Project Manager: Al Martinez	Telephone Number: 213-922-2956

A. Procurement Background

This Board action is for a Firm-Fixed-Price modification to an existing contract to provide Metro's patrons with the next rail arrival information system. This request for change order was requested from Nextbus, Inc. to duplicate the bus arrival information system to rail arrival information system.

The request for change order was issued in accordance with Metro's Acquisition Policy. One amendment was issued during the solicitation phase of this RFP; amendment No. 01 issued on March 6, 2012 to extend the request for change order due date.

B. Evaluation of Proposal

The proposal was evaluated based on existing contracts from the Contractor and subcontractor to ensure that the proposed labor rates, fees, and hours are reasonable and fair. The evaluation criteria are appropriate and consistent with similar sole source procurements.

C. Cost/Price Analysis

The recommended price has been determined to be fair and reasonable based upon a cost analysis, technical evaluations and negotiations.

	Proposer Name	Proposal Amount	Negotiated
1	Nextbus, Inc.	\$ 734,071.35	\$628,862.00

D. Background on Contractor

The recommended firm, NextBus, Inc. (NextBus) is located in 2433 Mariner Square Loop, #103, Alameda, Ca 94501 and has been in business since 1997. Nextbus is a wholly-owned subsidiary of WebTech Wireless, a publicly held company. NextBus provides real-time predictive arrival information for public transit and other transportation fleets. Its patented technology allows users to obtain bus arrival information via message displays at bus stops, interactive voice response systems and the internet. Since its inception, NextBus has grown from half a dozen to over 70 agencies and organizations in North America. Clients in California include San Francisco MUNI, San Francisco Water Transit Authority, UC Davis, UCLA, Ventura County Transportation Commission, Glendale BeeLine, AC Transit, and Emery-Go-Round. Clients throughout the nation include New Jersey Transit, Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority, Seattle Streetcar, Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority, Delaware Dart and University of South Carolina among others.

E. Small Business Participation

The Diversity and Economic Opportunity Department (DEOD) did not recommend a Small Business Enterprise (SBE) participation goal for this contract due to lack of subcontracting opportunities.

F. Subcontractors Included with Recommended Contractor's Proposal

- a. JM Fiber Optics, 13941 Ramona Ave. Suite A, Chino, Ca 91710