


Date: June 26, 2024

To: Board of Directors

From: Sam Desue, Jr. 

Subject: **RESOLUTION NO. 24-06-37 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 General Manager or his designee to execute a Contract with Tait Communications for Radio System Managed 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): 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 1st Reading
- Ordinance 2nd Reading
- Other _____

6. Background

TriMet’s Land Mobile Radio system is a mission critical, high priority system. It provides a critical communication link that is necessary for the safety of TriMet staff and the public, as well as supporting day-to-day operations. This essential system must be continually monitored and managed, 24 hours per day, seven days per week.

The system supports approximately 3,050 users split in the following ways:

- 800 radio mobiles in buses
- 280 radio mobiles in light rail trains
- 100 radio mobiles in non-revenue vehicles (supervisors)
- 270 radio mobiles in para-transit vehicles
- 1500 portable radios for supervisors, transit police, security and other foot personnel
- 100 mobile radios installed in fixed locations for operations and inside buildings

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

- Center Street – Primary Control (High Availability Node)
- Junction – Backup Control (High Availability 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
- Parkrose – Radio Site 8

The Tait P25 radio network is comprised of infrastructure manufactured by Tait, Avtec radio dispatch consoles, and Tait portable and mobile radios. This system provides sufficient capacity for all TriMet operations. Under the Contract, Tait will provide 24-hour system health monitoring and support; engineering diagnostic and troubleshooting services; collaborative system enhancements, including ongoing functionality and security improvements; and regular system capacity and usage analysis, meeting current and future agency needs. Additionally, Tait will maintain existing and new servers, software, services and critical backup communication systems.

In May 2021, via Resolution No. 21-05-20, the Board approved a three-year, sole source contract with Tait for the management and monitoring of the mobile radio network in the amount of \$1,056,000, expiring in June 2024. This Resolution authorizes a new, five-year Contract with Tait in the amount of \$2,029,523, which will allow TriMet to continue receiving the benefits of Tait’s services and expertise in maintaining and improving this essential radio system.

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.

7. **Description of Procurement Process**

Tait radio equipment and software are proprietary in nature and may only be maintained by authorized personnel. Therefore, this Resolution authorizes a sole-source Contract for Tait, as the only authorized service provider for Tait products, to provide radio network managed services.

8. **Diversity**

Tait Communications currently employs approximately 60 people, 26 of whom are women or minorities. Two of Tait's top three upper management roles are held by women and/or minorities, and six out of ten members of its Regional Leadership Team are women and/or minorities.

9. **Financial/Budget Impact**

The Contract's total value will be \$2,029,523 over five years. The first year Contract amount is accounted for in TriMet's Information Technology Division's budget for FY2025.

10. **Impact if Not Approved**

The radio system implemented by TriMet is designed for transit use and is not a standard Land Mobile Radio (LMR) configuration. Although TriMet could seek to procure a small subset of these managed services on the open market, most of these services can only be procured from Tait. Tait 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.

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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

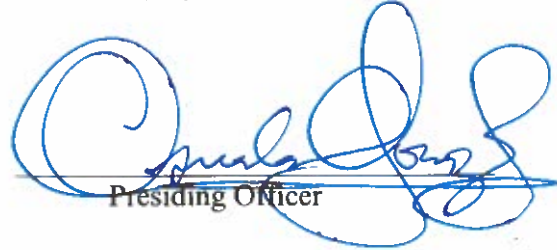
WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 22-05-35, dated May 25, 2022, the TriMet Board of Directors (Board) adopted a Statement of Policies requiring the Board to authorize all contracts obligating TriMet to pay in excess of \$1,000,000; and

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 the Contract in the amount of not more than \$2,029,523, over the five (5) year life of the Contract.

Dated: June 26, 2024


Presiding Officer

Attest:


Recording Secretary

Approved as to Legal Sufficiency:


Legal Department