

# Agenda Report

May 15, 2017

**TO:** Honorable Mayor and City Council  
**FROM:** Department of Transportation  
**SUBJECT: AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT WITH CONNEXIONZ, LTD. FOR \$586,456 TO EXPAND THE DEPLOYMENT OF THE REAL-TIME TRANSIT VEHICLE ARRIVAL INFORMATION SYSTEM**

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Find that the following proposed actions are exempt from review pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA"), pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15061 (b) (3) (General Rule);
2. Authorize the City Manager to enter into a contract, without competitive bidding pursuant to City Charter Section 1002(F), contracts for professional or unique services, with Connexionz, Ltd. for an amount not to exceed \$586,456 for three years to expand the deployment of the real-time Transit Vehicle Arrival Information System (TVAIS); and
3. It is further recommended that the City Council to the extent this is considered a separate procurement, grant the proposed contract an exemption from the Competitive Selection process pursuant to Pasadena Municipal Code Section 4.08.049B, contracts for which the City's best interests are served.

## **BACKGROUND:**

Between FY2006 and FY2009, the City was awarded federal and Los Angeles County Metro Call for Projects funds for a real-time Transit Vehicle Arrival Information System (TVAIS). In 2012, City Council authorized the City Manager to enter into an agreement with Connexionz, Ltd. for the deployment of the TVAIS following a federally compliant and competitive selection process. By June 2016, the Connexionz system provided the real-time arrival information of Pasadena Transit buses to the public via smart phone

apps, online, phone, and at electronic displays (i.e., BusFinders) installed at key bus stops throughout the City. In 2016, staff worked with Metro to get an extension of the remaining federal and local grant funds. The proposed agreement with Connexionz will use the grant funds to enable the City to:

1. Implement a project that supports the broader regional transit network by displaying the predicted real-time arrivals for multiple transit providers on the BusFinders at shared bus stops, including the development work necessary to import and display the arrival times of other transit providers on the City's current BusFinders; purchase and installation of additional BusFinders; provision of other system-related upgrades and equipment, as well as technical, maintenance, and warranty support after implementation; and
2. Purchase and installation of the TVAIS equipment on eight (8) new fixed-route buses that will be added to the Pasadena Transit fleet in the current and upcoming fiscal years.

Working with the City's regional partners, the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) and Foothill Transit, a project will be implemented with Connexionz so that the City may have the option of also displaying the real-time information for these regional transit providers on the BusFinders.

A BusFinder is a solar powered electronic display installed directly onto a bus stop post that allows someone to push a button to find out the real-time predicted arrivals for buses due within the next 30 minutes at that location. These times are displayed by route on the digital display. Customers may also call 511 or use several different smart phone apps for this same real-time information. Currently, the information displayed on the BusFinders is for Pasadena Transit buses only. This project will allow the City the option to display information from other transit agencies as well (e.g., Metro, Foothill Transit, etc.).

The potential to implement this project component was envisioned when the original Technical Specifications were developed for the Request for Project (RFP) and, as such, stated as an option in the RFP: "TVAIS shall be capable of importing time of arrival information from other transit agencies and displaying the information on the Electronic Displays." Since that time, the advancement in technology used by the other transit providers, as well as a more open-data policy approach in the transit industry has created an environment that facilitates the City being able to gain access to and share data from these other transit agencies.

The existing eighty (80) BusFinder locations serve key Pasadena Transit bus stops, including major transfer locations, time points, heavily used stops, points of interests, and Gold Line serving stops. The majority of BusFinder locations are at bus stops that are shared with other agencies, primarily Metro. Providing real-time information to the public for other transit agencies that share these bus stops with Pasadena Transit will be very helpful to existing transit users and make it easier for individuals who are new to using transit. As with the existing locations, any future bus stops that may be equipped with

BusFinders will be distributed equitably throughout the City, ensuring that the real-time transit information is available in economically disadvantaged areas of the community, core commercial areas, where transit demand is higher, and at key points of interest. (See Attachment A for a map of the current BusFinder locations).

This new contract with Connexionz will also provide for the purchase and installation of the TVAIS equipment on eight (8) new Pasadena Transit buses that will be purchased in the current and upcoming fiscal years.

**COUNCIL POLICY CONSIDERATION:**

This proposed action supports the General Plan guiding principle, “Pasadena will be a city where people can circulate without a car” and will directly assist the Department of Transportation in implementing major objectives of the Mobility Element, including promoting a livable community and encouraging transit as a non-auto travel alternative. Citywide transit use will be supported with the expansion of the deployment of the TVAIS project on new vehicles and by providing real-time passenger information on the BusFinders for other transit agencies as well as for Pasadena Transit.

**ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS:**

The proposed action to approve a contract with Connexionz to expand the deployment of the real-time transit vehicle arrival information system has been determined to be exempt from CEQA per Section 15301, Existing Facilities. The proposed action to enter into this contract will not result in any significant change or increase in service.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

The cost of this contract is \$586,456 and the total cost of this action will be \$620,456. funding for this action will be addressed by the utilization of existing budgeted appropriations in the ITS Phase I Project (75701) and the Purchase of Fixed Route Transit Vehicles Project (75085). It is anticipated that 100% of the cost will be spent by the end of Fiscal Year 2018.

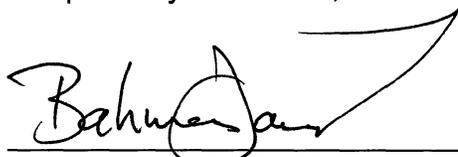
The following table presents a project budget summary.

<b>Project Budget Summary</b>	
Base Contract Amount	\$533,142
Contingency	\$ 53,314
<b>Subtotal Contract Award</b>	<b>\$586,456</b>
DOT Engineering	\$ 34,000
<b>Total Project Cost</b>	<b>\$620,456</b>

The following table presents a summary of the sources of funds that will be used.

<b>Project 75701 – ITS Phase I</b>	
FTA 5309	\$95,000
Local Match (Gold Line Surplus)	\$19,000
Metro Call for Projects	\$254,268
Local Match (Gold Line Surplus)	\$78,232
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$446,500</b>
<b>Project 75085 – Purchase of Fixed Route Transit Vehicles</b>	
Fund 209 Prop C Local Return	\$173,956
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>\$173,956</b>
<b>Total Sources</b>	<b>\$620,456</b>

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Department of Transportation

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Attachment

Attachment A – BusFinder Locations Map