

Agenda Report

October 19, 2020

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council

FROM: Department of Transportation

SUBJECT: AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT WITH CONNEXIONZ, LTD. FOR \$1,533,220 FOR HARDWARE, MAINTENANCE AND SUPPORT FOR THE PASADENA REAL-TIME TRANSIT VEHICLE ARRIVAL INFORMATION SYSTEM

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Find that the following proposed action is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA"), pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines per Section 15061 (b)(3); and
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 hardware, maintenance and support in an amount not to exceed \$889,503 (which includes a contingency of \$119,371) over a five-year period; and
3. Authorize the City Manager to: a) extend the contract for one two-year option term in the amount of \$366,777 (which includes \$50,590 in contingency); b) to purchase optional hardware in the amount of \$183,927; and c) to expand the maintenance, warranty and support for a fleet of up to 60 public transit vehicles in the amount of \$93,013 with a maximum contract length of seven years and a not to exceed contract amount of \$1,533,220; and
4. It is further recommended that the City Council grant the proposed contract an exemption from the Competitive Selection process pursuant to Pasadena Municipal Code Section 4.08.049(B) contracts for which the City's best interests are served.

BACKGROUND:

One of the City of Pasadena's General Plan guiding principles is, "Pasadena will be a city where people can circulate without a car." Having a seamless experience on Pasadena Transit and a reliable public transit system supports this goal. To achieve this goal, in

2012, City Council authorized the City Manager to enter into an agreement with Connexionz, Ltd. for the deployment of the City's Transit Vehicle Arrival Information System (TVAIS). This grant funded procurement complied with both the City and federal competitive selection process.

By June 2015, the Connexionz system provided real-time Pasadena Transit arrival information to the public via smart phone apps, online, and by phone. In 2016, this real-time arrival information became available to customers via solar powered displays (i.e., BusFinders) installed at key bus stops throughout the City. In 2018, the remaining grant funds were used to have Connexionz develop an upgrade to also display Metro real time bus arrival on BusFinders at shared bus stop locations. As of 2020, about 30% of Pasadena Transit's nearly 400 bus stops are equipped with a BusFinder. By actively pursuing grants, new BusFinders have been installed Citywide based on the Pasadena Street Design Guidelines. These guidelines prioritize transfer locations, locations with high ridership and locations connecting to important local and regional destination in the city. In addition to providing real time information, the TVAIS provided tools to help substantially increase the on-time performance to the Pasadena Transit system.

In order for the system to function properly, Connexionz equipment and software is required. The TVAIS architecture integrates proprietary Connexionz software with proprietary Connexionz hardware on board buses and at bus stops to provide the various outputs associated with the real time transit arrival information. The Connexionz hardware on Pasadena public transit vehicles and bus stops has a combine value of over one million dollars with a ten year useful life. The first five years of maintenance and support was grant funded. With the combined value and five of the ten years of life still remaining in the system, an exemption from competitive selection is in the best interest of the City. This action will allow the use of the hardware's full useful life.

The proposed contract with Connexionz, Ltd. will provide the following ongoing support, maintenance and upgrades to the current TVAIS system.

1. Five years (and the option of two additional years) of maintenance, warranty and 24/7/365 support essential to ensure reliable dissemination of real time transit arrival information for up to 50 vehicles in the public transit fleet. The fleet is currently made up of 46 vehicles and can expand to 50 at no additional cost.
2. The purchase and installation of the TVAIS equipment on five new replacement Pasadena public transit vehicles that will be delivered by the end of Fiscal Year 2022.
3. The purchase of replacement hardware for the transit vehicle surveillance system which allows for additional video storage.
4. The purchase of upgraded software to provide real time passenger capacity information to the public, to help with social distancing on buses.

The proposed contract also has three options.

- A. Extend the five year contract for maintenance, warranty and 24/7/365 support for an additional one two-year term.

- B. If funding becomes available during the first five year term or the option term, purchase up to 40 additional BusFinders. The maintenance and support for this additional hardware is included in the recommendation.
- C. If funding becomes available to expand the Pasadena public transit fleet beyond 50 vehicles, maintenance, warranty and support for a fleet of up to 60 vehicles.

Pending Council authorization to award the contract, the new agreement will be in effect beginning January 5, 2021, following the expiration of the current warranty contract. The five year base term of the new agreement will expire on January 4, 2026, with the option to exercise a two year extension through January 4, 2028.

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 ongoing support of the real-time arrival information system.

ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS:

The proposed action to approve a contract with Connexionz, Ltd. 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 action is \$889,503 for the initial 5-year term of the contract. Funding for this action will be addressed by the utilization of existing budgeted appropriations in the Department of Transportation Transit Division budget (Accounts 20924043-811400) and from the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) 75085 and 75086. The Transit Division budget will fund the maintenance and support components and the CIP will fund the vehicle hardware components. It is anticipated that \$246,013 (which includes \$127,968 from the Transit Division budget and \$118,045 from the CIP 75085) will be spent during the current fiscal year. The remainder of the costs will be spent over the next four fiscal years. Expenses for optional items (term extension, additional bus finders, and addition to fleet) to the base contract will be funded with existing operating budget and the capital project budgets identified, as well as, any grant funding that may become available during the term of the contract. The following table represents a contract summary for the first five years.

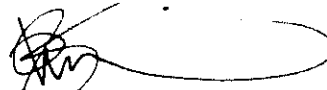
Base Contract	\$ 770,132
Contingency	\$ 119,371
Total	\$ 889,503

Current budget appropriation for this contract are available from the following funds:

Funding:	
Transit Operating Budget (20924043-811400)	\$ 755,028
Purchase of Fixed Route Transit Vehicle Project (75085)	\$ 118,045
Purchase of Dial-A-Ride Vehicles (75086)	\$ 16,430
Total Contract Amount	\$ 889,503

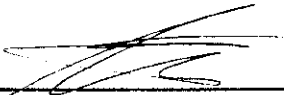
The buses equipped with the Connexionz hardware will continue to be operated and maintained under the City's transit operations contract with First Transit, Inc. This contract for the fixed route operations and vehicle maintenance is included in the Department of Transportation's operating budget.

Respectfully submitted,



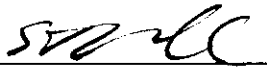
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