

City of Culver City, California
City Council Agenda Item Report

Meeting Date: 8/8/05		Item Number: <u>A-6</u>	
AGENDA ITEM: Consideration to Authorize an Amendment to the Eiger Tech Systems Contract to Include a \$39,000 Increase in Funds for Work on the Smart Bus Project.			
Contact Person/Dept.: Art Ida		Phone Number: (310) 253-6545	
Fiscal Impact: Yes ☒ No ☐		General Fund: Yes ☐ No ☒	
Public Hearing: ☐		Action Item: ☒	Attachments: ☐
Public Notification: Master Notification List on 8/3/05; Eiger Tech Systems			
Department Approval: Steve Cunningham 7/28/05		CAO Approval: Jerry Fulwood 8/2/05	
City Controller Approval: Marlee Chang 8/1/05			

RECOMMENDATION:

That the City Council authorize an amendment to the Eiger Tech Systems contract to include a \$39,000 increase in funds for work on the Culver City Transportation Department's Smart Bus project.

BACKGROUND:

On October 10, 2002, the Department issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) for program management services. These services are necessary due to the very technical nature of this procurement. Staff does not possess the technical expertise to develop appropriate specifications and oversee the purchase and installation of this technology. Staff recognized that the City's needs would best be served through the use of a company that specializes in ITS technology and has an extensive background working with public transit agencies.

On March 23, 2003, the City Council approved a \$156,127 contract with Eiger Tech Systems for project management services for the Transportation Department's Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) project.

DISCUSSION:

The SmartBus project is an integrated project which includes an Automatic Vehicle Location (AVL) subsystem that determines bus location by utilizing Global Positioning System (GPS) technology, and a Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) subsystem that generates an area map display of the location of buses in real time.

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Other subsystems to be included will be automatic passenger counters, automatic bus stop voice annunciation, onboard video surveillance, and vehicle health monitoring.

The department will eventually integrate other ITS technologies including real time arrival information at major bus stops and bus signal priority systems.

This project is highly technical and Eiger Tech Systems has been very responsive in making sure system requirements for the Transportation Department will be met. However, due to the complexity of the SmartBus project, we have experienced several events which contributed to additional consulting hours for Eiger Tech Systems.

First and foremost, we have had to deal with several issues relating to the radio channel used by the SmartBus system. The Department originally included in the specifications that the proposed vendors would have to provide a solution which incorporates the licensing of a 900 mhz radio channel for voice and data transmission. Since then, we have been notified by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), that they will limit the issuance of any new 900 mhz licenses in Los Angeles County for an undisclosed period of time. This would mean huge delays in the project schedule along with additional costs to the project. Fortunately, the City's Communications Division developed an alternative solution which would use an existing City UHF channel to transmit the data. This solution would provide approximately \$120,000 in savings and also reduce the time it would take to implement the project. This change, while ultimately beneficial to the project, created an enormous amount of additional technical work that was not accounted for in the Eiger Tech Systems original contract.

Other costs that were not originally accounted for in the original contract were the Federal Transit Administration's (FTA) Intelligent Information Systems (ITS) architecture audit. Last year, the FTA incorporated a new grant policy which stated that all grantees who use federal funds to implement ITS technologies will be required to perform and document an ITS architecture analysis. Although, the ITS regulation was not yet finalized, the FTA selected Culver City to go through a preliminary ITS Architecture process to be used as a model agency for future audits. Although this audit required a lot of additional time and effort on the part of staff and our consultant, it was beneficial because we were found in compliance with these FTA regulations when we went through our last FTA Triennial review.

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FISCAL ANALYSIS:

The Transportation Department has allocated sufficient federal transit capital grant funds in the current budget for this contract amendment.

There will be no impact on the City's general fund.

MOTION:

That the City Council:

1. That the City Council authorize an amendment to the Eiger Tech Systems contract to include a \$39,000 increase in funds for work on the Culver City Transportation Department's Smart Bus project;
2. Authorize the City Attorney to prepare the necessary amendment to the contract and authorize the Chief Administrative Officer to execute the contract amendment on behalf of the City.