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Form Revised: February 2005

**TORONTO TRANSIT COMMISSION
REPORT NO.**

MEETING DATE: February 27, 2007

SUBJECT: PROCUREMENT AUTHORIZATION – Supply Of Operator Keypads FOR THE SURFACE VEHICLE AUTOMATED STOP ANNOUNCEMENT SYSTEM

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Commission authorize:

- (1) the award of a contract to Electronic Keyboards Inc. for the supply of 1,800 Operator Keypads for the Surface Vehicle Automated Stop Announcement System (SVASAS) in the total amount of \$255,600 U.S. (\$295,729 CAD) excluding applicable taxes;
- (2) funds in the estimated amount of \$41,402 CAD that will be paid directly to the Federal and Provincial government's for GST and PST; and
- (3) funds in the estimated amount of \$6,300 CAD that will be paid for freight and brokerage, bringing the total authorization for this contract to \$343,431 CAD (based on an exchange rate of \$1 USD = \$1.157CAD).

FUNDING

Sufficient funds for this expenditure have been included in Project 2.3, Communications under Surface Vehicle Automated Stop Announcement System (SVASAS), as set out on Pages 389-391, Legislative Category, of the TTC 2007-2011 Capital Program, as approved by the Commission on January 31, 2007.

DISCUSSION

The SVASAS was designed by staff to automatically play sound files to announce the surface stops for the visually impaired and display route stop messages for the hearing impaired. The system is stand alone that uses a Global Positioning System unit (GPS), which passes coordinates to a mobile controller. An application in the controller interprets the coordinates and compares them to a database which then selects

the appropriate message. The message is then played through a Public Address (PA) system as well as displayed on an LED sign. An Operator Keypad is designed so the Operator can select the type of service they are operating on i.e. Express bus, Local Service, Night Bus, etc. The keypad also includes buttons to play pre-recorded messages which provides information to our customers.

On December 8, 2006 five (5) companies were invited to submit Proposals in addition to the public advertisement on the TTC web-site out of which two (2) companies submitted Proposals. The proponents were requested to provide optional pricing for PS/2 cable with split loom wire protection.

Electronic Keyboards Inc. (EKI) submitted the lower Proposal pricing as detailed in Appendix 'A'. Their submission was quoted in U.S. funds and stated they could meet the proposed schedule of 75 units per week. Their submission was considered commercially and technically acceptable. Surface Transportation indicated acceptance of the optional PS/2 cable with split loom wire protection based on the pricing submitted.

Electronic Keyboards Inc. is not licensed to collect Federal (GST) or Provincial (PST) taxes and as a result, the Commission will self assess taxes and remit the appropriate amounts (\$41,402 CAD) directly to the Federal and Provincial governments. TTC will be responsible for freight and brokerage charges for this requirement in the amount of \$6,300 CAD.

Barantec Inc. (Barantec) submitted the higher priced Proposal. Their submission was quoted in U.S. funds and they took exception to the Commission's Indemnification General Condition whereby they limited their liability for defective keypad units to the repair or replacement of the keypads only. They would not be held responsible for any damages or third party damages as a result of defective units. Consequently their submission was considered commercially non-compliant.

A price comparison with the last purchase price revealed the recommended price is approximately 8% lower than the previous price.

JUSTIFICATION

The award of a contract for the supply of 1,800 Operator Keypads for the SVASAS will provide automated audio and visual stop announcements on surface revenue vehicles in a consistent manner independent of Operator action.

January 17, 2007
5-120
Attachments

APPENDIX 'A'

Supply of Operator Keypads for the Surface Vehicle Automated Stop Announcement System

Price Summary

PROPOSERS	TOTAL AMOUNT 1800 Operator Keypads
Electronic Keyboards Inc.*	\$255,600 (US – excluding taxes and freight) \$295,729 (CAD – excluding taxes and freight)
Barantec	\$423,000 (US – excluding taxes) \$489,411 (CAD – excluding taxes)
Van's Electronics Ltd.	Unable to quote

* Recommended for Award

The above pricing includes the cost for optional PS/2 cable.