

TORONTO TRANSIT COMMISSION REPORT NO.

MEETING DATE: May 28, 2009

SUBJECT: PROCUREMENT AUTHORIZATION AMENDMENT – SUPPLY
OF LOW-FLOOR PARATRANSIT BUSES

ACTION ITEM

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Commission authorize amending the contract for the procurement of Low-Floor Paratransit buses by exercising the option for the installation of 110 AVL/GPS units and supporting software at an upset limit of \$3,500,000 CDN.

FUNDING

Sufficient funds are included in Project 4.11, W.O. #6556, Purchase of Future Wheel-Trans Buses, as set out on pages 1007 to 1010, Budget Category - State of Good Repair/Safety of the TTC's 2009-2013 Capital Program as approved by the City of Toronto Council on December 10, 2008.

BACKGROUND

At its Commission meeting of October 23, 2008, the Commission approved the award of Contract C34PX08787 for the supply of 110 Low-Floor Paratransit Buses required for Wheel-Trans service in the City of Toronto to American Bus Products Inc. (APB). Within the RFP, there was an option for the installation of an AVL/GPS system; however, this option was not exercised at that time, as the offered system only displayed vehicle location and did not meet Wheel-Trans business requirements.

Contract details are as follows:

Original Contract Amount	\$33,064,804.30
Increased Amount for this Amendment	\$ 3,500,000.00
Revised Contract Amount	\$36,564,804.30

DISCUSSION

Since the award of this contract, discussions with ABP have resulted in identifying an acceptable AVL/GPS system along with supporting hardware and software. The offered AVL/GPS system is currently in use and has been proven in other large cities, such as New York City Transit. It meets the Wheel-Trans business requirements; as well, it can easily be integrated into the scheduling system. This will allow Wheel-Trans to increase the number of trips provided, be more flexible with customer trip plans, provide customers with up-to-date trip information, and improve overall vehicle productivity. This particular system also includes an integrated camera to assist in reversing the vehicle, a system originally contemplated as being an optional add-in for the vehicle. Keeping these capabilities in mind, pricing with the option originally proposed could not be compared. Authority to proceed with an upper limit is being requested as the first unit is intended to be included with the June bus delivery. As a result of discussions with ABP, tentative pricing has been offered and is considered a reasonable maximum amount by Wheel-Trans staff; however, final pricing is dependent upon installation details presently being finalized. ABP has also agreed to provide the AVL/GPS system at cost. The submitted tentative pricing by ABP was used to develop an upset limit amount for the AVL/GPS system.

JUSTIFICATION

Approval of this contract amendment will allow the installation of AVL/GPS technology during the manufacturing process of the new buses and this technological improvement will allow Wheel-Trans to increase the productivity of bus service and provide customers with better trip information consistent with the Wheel-Trans business plan.

May 21, 2009
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