

Date: December 15, 2021

To: Board of Directors

From: Sam Desue, Jr.



Subject: RESOLUTION NO. 21-12-49 OF THE TRI-COUNTY METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT OF OREGON (TRIMET) AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT MODIFICATION WITH TAIT COMMUNICATIONS (TAIT) FOR RADIO INFRASTRUCTURE EQUIPMENT AND SERVICES

1. Purpose of Item

This Resolution requests that the TriMet Board of Directors (Board) authorize the General Manager or his designee to execute a contract modification (Modification) with Tait Communications (Tait) for Radio Infrastructure Equipment and Services.

2. Type of Agenda Item

- Initial Contract
 Contract Modification
 Other _____

3. Type of Contract Procurement

- Low Bid / Invitation to Bid (ITB)
 Request for Proposals (RFP) (inc. CM/GC)
 Request for Qualifications (RFQ) (Personal Services)
 Other (inc. sole source) _____

4. Reason for Board Action

Board authorization is required for all goods and services contracts obligating TriMet to pay in excess of \$1,000,000.

5. Type of Action

- Resolution
 Ordinance 1st Reading
 Ordinance 2nd Reading
 Other _____

6. Background

TriMet's Land Mobile Radio System (Radio System) is a mission critical, high priority communication system. It is essential to TriMet operations and supports more than 2600 users, generally divided as follows:

- 700+ radio mobiles in buses
- Approximately 250 radio mobiles in light rail trains
- 100+ radio mobiles in non-revenue vehicles (supervisors)
- Almost 300 radio mobiles in para-transit vehicles
- Approximately 1100 portable radios for supervisors, transit police, security and other personnel
- Almost 100 mobile radios installed in fixed locations for operations and inside buildings

The Radio System is supported by nine "core" sites, two of which are central control sites and seven of which are remote radio sites, connected by TriMet's private microwave links and IT fiber network. This Radio System "core" includes radio system servers, software, and digital radio tower equipment, but does not include mobile or portable radio units.

The Radio System core sites are:

- Center Street (core control)
- Ruby Junction (core control)
- Council Crest (remote radio)
- Mount Scott (remote radio)
- Pete's Mountain (remote radio)
- Polivka (remote radio)
- Bald Peak (remote radio)
- Livingston (remote radio)
- Hillsboro (remote radio)

The TAIT P25 radio network is comprised of infrastructure originally manufactured by Airbus and Tait, and Tait portable and mobile radios; all technology under Tait's control. Tait equipment and services supports the TriMet Radio System, both mobile and core, which currently provides sufficient communication capacity for all TriMet operations.

In May 2021, TriMet entered into a \$350,000 contract for Tait to provide ongoing services and equipment to improve TriMet's Radio System, including radio core server/software improvements and remote radio core site improvements. Under the current contract, Tait has been providing these goods and services on an "as needed" basis.

TriMet's FY2022 budget authorized additional funding in the amount of \$2,233,000 to upgrade the Radio System core servers, software, and digital radio tower equipment. In addition to replacing end-of-life/end-of-support core equipment, this investment will enable the doubling of TriMet's Radio System core capacity once the fleet of mobile and portable radios is also updated.

This Resolution does not exceed TriMet's authorized budget for the IT Division. Rather, it authorizes a Modification of the existing Tait contract to permit the expenditure of approved funds, in order to implement the planned Radio System core upgrade. With the addition of the \$2,233,000 requested by this Resolution, the new value of the Tait contract will be \$2,583,000.

7. Procurement Process

Due to the proprietary nature of the communications technology, the original contract with Tait was awarded as a Sole Source.

8. Diversity

Tait currently employs approximately 60 people, 26 of whom are female and/or minorities. Two of the top three upper management positions are held by women and/or minorities, and six of the ten regional leadership team members are women and/or minorities.

9. Financial/Budget Impact

The increased contract amount is included in the IT division's FY2022 operating budget.

10. Impact if Not Approved

The Board's failure to adopt this Resolution will result in a delay in upgrading TriMet's Radio System, which is a component of TriMet's critical operations infrastructure. Due to the nature of the Radio System, TriMet cannot obtain the necessary upgrades on the open market.

RESOLUTION NO. 21-12-49

**RESOLUTION NO. 21-12-49 OF THE TRI-COUNTY METROPOLITAN
TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT OF OREGON (TRIMET) AUTHORIZING A
CONTRACT MODIFICATION WITH TAIT COMMUNICATIONS (TAIT) FOR
RADIO INFRASTRUCTURE EQUIPMENT AND SERVICES**

WHEREAS, TriMet has authority under ORS 267.200 to enter into a contract modification (Modification) with Tait Communications for Radio Infrastructure Equipment and Services; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution dated October 25, 2017, the TriMet Board of Directors (Board) adopted a Statement of Policies requiring it to approve goods and services contracts obligating TriMet to pay in excess of \$1,000,000; and

WHEREAS, the total amount of the Modification exceeds the contract amount originally authorized by the Board;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That the contract Modification shall conform with applicable law.
2. That the General Manager or his designee is authorized to execute the contract Modification to increase the contract amount by \$2,233,000, for a new total contract amount of \$2,583,000, through the original March, 2024 contract termination date.

Dated: December 15, 2021

Presiding Officer

Attest:

Recording Secretary

Approved as to Legal Sufficiency:

Gregory E. Skillman
Legal Department