

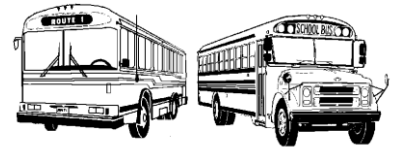


**CITY OF HARRISONBURG
PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT**

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November 8, 2016



TO: Kurt Hodgen, City Manager
FROM: Reggie Smith
DATE: November 8, 2016
RE: Supplemental Appropriation – Public Transportation Department

Summary: Consider a supplemental appropriation for the Public Transportation Department in the amount of \$445,000.

Background: HDPT's contract with Nextbus for ITS, AVL solution expires December 2016. HDPT sent out a RFP for prospective bidders in July 2016. Seven proposals were received, of which six met requirements. HDPT staff reviewed the proposals with assistance from JMU, and unanimously chose Avail Technologies as our next ITS solution. \$450,000 had been budgeted for the project with anticipation of renewing the Nextbus contract with upgrades. Nextbus did not bid. Avail was chosen despite being at the high end of bidders. Most bidders were not able to supply approved NTD (National Transit Database) modules. Avail's solution offers MDT's (Mobile data terminals) trip planning, automatic passenger announcements, automatic passenger counting, pre-trip inspection reports to the shop, systems diagnostics for cameras, and destination signs.

Key Issues: At this time FTA and DRPT are encouraging and funding ITS solutions. The TISDAC study group has recommended funding based on performance, thus accurate reporting is imperative. HDPT is fortunate that this is our second purchase of an ITS solution and staff has become familiar with vendors, products, and best practices. Avail is a leader of the industry. HDPT currently has some Avail equipment on 14 buses, and drivers prefer buses with Avail equipment.

Environmental Impact: None

Fiscal Impact: Local amount is minimal from fund balance

Prior Actions: Funds were budgeted in FY 17 budget

Alternatives: Possibly work out an extended agreement with Nextbus, however NextBus has failed to meet the terms of its agreement and does not have the required features that HDPT needs for performance data. We also could have selected a vendor with a lower bid, less solutions which could be sold or gone in this competitive industry.

Community Engagement: JMU, HDPT staff

Recommendation: Staff recommends approval of the supplemental appropriation.

Attachments: Supplemental appropriation

Review:

The initiating Department Director will place in Legistar, in sequence of transmittal, the names of each department that must initial their review in order for this item to be placed on the City Council agenda. The completion of review only addresses the readiness of the issue for Council consideration. This does not address the recommendation for approval or denial of the issue.