



Description of Intended Sole Source Purchase

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This description of contractual services intended for purchase from a sole source is posted in accordance with section 287.057(3)(c), Florida Statutes, and will remain posted for a period of at least seven (7) business days.

Commodity or Service Required: Information Technology Hardware, Software and Professional Services necessary for improvements to the GeoFocus Passenger Information System.

Description:

SFRTA operates Tri-Rail, a commuter rail service, on a 72 mile rail corridor providing service to Palm Beach, Broward and Miami-Dade counties. This service makes stops at eighteen (18) Tri-rail stations and comprises as many as fifty (50) scheduled trains per day. SFRTA employs a proprietary GeoFocus system to provide passenger information (train arrivals, announcements and alerts) at all eighteen (18) stations through LED displays and public address audio systems.

The GeoFocus server application was recently upgraded to provide Real Time Train Tracking information via the SFRTA website and a mobile telephone application. This information is routed through the GeoFocus Server to a hosted server application in order to format and publish this information. SFRTA would like to procure, deploy and implement information technology hardware, software and professional services to format, route and publish train tracking information provided by the hosted server application to LED and LCD displays and the public address audio systems at all Tri-Rail stations. In addition, this effort will include updating the recordings of the GeoFocus audio files to include passenger information system audio announcements in three (3) languages; English, Spanish and Creole.

Intended Sole Source:

ETA Transit Systems, Inc.

Estimated Dollar Amount:

\$307,662.00

Justification for Sole Source Acquisition:

SFRTA's existing Passenger Information System (PIS) was supplied by GeoFocus, LLC during the Segment 5 Double Tracking Project, which occurred between July 2003 - March 2006 and has been in continual use since. GeoFocus, LLC ceased business operations and support of the PIS system in December 2008. By January 2015, the system had experienced technical failures on a frequent basis. ETA, which employs former GeoFocus employees trained specifically in GeoFocus application development and maintenance, was then identified as a sole-source vendor for repair and maintenance of the system. ETA was able to perform modest updates to the system and return it to functionality.

ETA has continued to perform maintenance-related tasks on SFRTA's GeoFocus server, including the aforementioned effort to return the system to viability earlier this year. The "Upgrade of GeoFocus System for Real Time Train Tracking Service" project involves expanding the functionality of the existing GeoFocus application on SFRTA's GeoFocus server to provide passenger-centric train tracking through a feed to an existing web-based solution (SPOT) also offered by ETA as well as mobile phone applications. Currently, SFRTA's Train-Tracking Passenger information system is hosted (as a subscription service) via ETA's SPOT server, feeding information to both a website and telephone application, making the information feed a proprietary product of ETA. Based on the exclusive knowledge of the GeoFocus system and the specialized upgrades ETA has performed for SFRTA, the firm is uniquely qualified to perform the work necessary to update this proprietary system and publish the Train-Tracking information product through their existing web-based indices.

Recommended Procurement Approach: For the reasons stated above, SFRTA intends to utilize the Sole Source procurement method to contract with ETA Transit Systems, Inc. for the supply of hardware, software and professional services (deployment, configuration, testing and support) necessary to accomplish the upgrade of the GeoFocus Passenger Information System.