

To: Board of Directors

From: Leanne P. Redden, Executive Director

Date: April 2, 2019

Re: Ordinance authorizing a contract for upgrading of the RTA's critical Storage Area Network (SAN)



**Regional
Transportation
Authority**

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The proposed ordinance authorizes the execution of a contract with an authorized reseller of NetApp products, CDW to provide critical storage and computing systems that manage the RTA's technology platform. The total cost of this contract is for an amount not to exceed \$417,450.00 and includes the one-time initial service charges and five years of support and maintenance.

Background

The RTA utilizes a Storage Area Network (SAN) that acts as a repository for all files generated by the RTA user community, but more importantly holds all of the business-critical server images and software systems that run RTA's entire computing environment. Most large organizations in public, private, and the educational space utilize similar systems. The implementation of an enterprise SAN facilitates consolidated infrastructure and resource sharing capabilities.

The RTA's current SAN infrastructure is over five (5) years old and has reached the end of its product lifecycle; therefore, the IT Department must begin the process to upgrade this critical item. The level of effort required to procure, configure, and implement this infrastructure is high, and the risks are equally high. Due to the complexity of such implementations, the RTA will require professional services to help plan, configure, and implement the hardware and software components. The most significant risk to the agency is improper implementation of the infrastructure, which would result in an unplanned outage of voice and data communications, as well as internal access to server systems.

Given the significant risk of migrating to a different SAN provider, IT staff identified the need to remain with the current hardware provider, NetApp, also because of the system familiarity and ease of implementation. The IT staff who will help implement the SAN, are also heavily involved with the Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) project, building and maintaining crucial network connections between RTA and the new ERP system.

CDW has previously submitted the RTA's Vendor/Contractor Certification that discloses the names of the principals and any contracted lobbyists, certifies that entering into this contract will not create a prohibited conflict of interest, and certifies that the firm and its principals have not been debarred or suspended from participating in public contracts and have not been convicted of procurement-related offenses. CDW-G has also agreed to update the Certification should any of the information change during the contract period.

Financial Impact

The financial components are listed below:

Vendor	Service	Cost	Term
CDW	SAN Installation and Project Management	\$16,905	One-time installation
CDW	NetApp SAN (hardware)	\$319,680	One-time installation
	(software)	\$934.00	
CDW	Nexus switches & service agreement (hardware)	\$23,182	One-time installation
CDW	Training of RTA Staff	\$8,721	One-time
NetAPP	Support & Maintenance	\$48,028	5 Yrs.
Total Cost		\$417,450	

The approved RTA 2019 budget contains sufficient funding for this project.

Prepared by: Finance, Innovation and Information Technology Department

LR/BRH/GC/AM
Attachment.

ORDINANCE NO.

WHEREAS, the Regional Transportation Authority (the Authority or RTA) operates server and storage infrastructure that are critical for agency operations;

WHEREAS, the Authority must maintain high availability of this infrastructure for normal operations;

WHEREAS, the Authority has determined that a contract with CDW-G meets the Authority's infrastructure requirements;

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors hereby finds that competitive bid for these products and services would be disadvantageous due to the high risk associated with implementing a new and unknown incompatible product ;

WHEREAS, CDW has previously submitted the Authority's Vendor/Contractor Certification that discloses the names of the principals and any contracted lobbyists, certifies that the firms and their principals have not been debarred or suspended from participating in public contracts and have not been convicted of procurement-related offenses and provides for updates to the Certification should any of the required information change during the contract period.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY that:

1. The Executive Director of the Authority is hereby authorized to execute a contract with CDW-G for a five (5) year terms beginning in 2019 and a total value not to exceed \$417,450.
2. The Executive Director is hereby authorized and directed to take such actions as the Executive Director deems necessary or appropriate to implement, administer and enforce this ordinance and said contract.