



SUBJECT: BUS WHEELCHAIR LIFTS ASSEMBLIES

ACTION: AWARD CONTRACT FOR BUS WHEELCHAIR LIFTS

RECOMMENDATION

Award a firm fixed price contract under Bid 05-0102 to Midwest Bus Corporation, the lowest responsive and responsible bidder for the procurement of 25 Lift -U Rear Door Wheelchair Lifts Assemblies, for an amount not to exceed \$392,850 inclusive of sales tax with an option to purchase up to 25 additional Wheelchair Lifts at \$399,600 for a total contract value of \$792,450.

RATIONALE

This procurement is for the acquisition of twenty-five (25) rear-door wheel chair lifts for installation on the RTS II 4400 series fleet. Due to the age, frequency of repairs with the original manufactured wheelchair lifts, and unavailability of repair parts for this lift unit, Regional Rebuild Center (RRC) staff determined that a complete fleet retrofit is necessary. Each bus has a single wheelchair lift assembly that will be completely removed and replaced. The retrofit project will take place over a one-year period with 25 wheelchair lifts to be installed in FY02.

The RTS II 4400 series fleet is a 35-foot bus that currently operates on narrow residential service routes in Los Angeles (Cypress Park) and Glendale. These MTA lines include the 175, 201 and 255. This RTS II fleet is scheduled to be the last fleet replaced under the scheduled accelerated bus replacement plan. In order to maintain service reliability with this fleet, the wheelchair lifts have been scheduled for replacement to meet existing and extended service requirements. This fleet will be replaced as MTA staff implements a plan to provide the required service for the existing lines.

A test program was initiated in August 1997 to evaluate the functionality of replacing the original lift with a more reliable unit. Methods have been refined to remove and replace the existing wheelchair lift with a self-contained lift that is currently in production and readily available. Two RTS II buses have been retrofitted with the subject lift and to date have been providing good, reliable service. The MTA has a current requirement for 25 wheelchair lifts for the RTS II 4400 series fleet. These wheelchair lifts can be used on other MTA model buses, which may require wheelchair lift replacement before retirement. The proposed retrofits are in compliance with standards set forth in the current Americans with Disability Act (ADA).

Metropolitan
Transportation
Authority

One Gateway Plaza
Los Angeles, CA
90012-2952

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The funding of \$392,400 for this product is included in the FY02 budget in cost center 3442, Repair & Refurbish, under Project Number 300050, Regional Rebuild Center, Line item 50441, M/S Parts Revenue Vehicles. In FY01, \$2,147,500 was expended in this category.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

The current restore and repair method of maintaining the existing wheelchair lifts was considered by staff in making their recommendation.

This alternative is not recommended because the existing RTS wheelchair lifts are subject to repeated failures, compromising reliability of service and requiring excessive amounts of labor and cost for repair parts. Also, the production of the original lift has been discontinued and repair parts are no longer readily available.

PROCUREMENT SUMMARY

The Procurement Department issued and advertised Invitation for Bid N0. 05-0102 on March 28, 2001. The notice of availability was mailed to 15 prospective bidders. On May 2, 2001, 5 bids were received and opened.

In accordance with the MTA's Procurement Policy and Procedures, the RRC Quality Reliability technical staff performed a technical evaluation. It was determined that all bidders met the specification requirement. Therefore, staff recommends award to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, Midwest Bus Corporation. These wheelchair lifts are warranted under the standard manufacturer's warranty for a one-year period.

The IFB included pricing for an option to purchase up to (25) wheelchair lifts. There is a price increase for the option quantity. Prior to exercising the option term, a market survey analysis, and a consumer price index review will be conducted to determine whether it is in the best interest of the MTA to exercise the option.

COST/PRICE ANALYSIS

Table 1 Analysis

Line Item #	Bidder	Total Award Amount	Historical Price
Base Order	Midwest Corporation	\$392,850	N/A
Option Order	Midwest Corporation	\$399,600	N/A
	Total Bid Price	\$792,450	

Table 2 Analysis

Line Item #	Bidder	Quantity	Type	Bid Unit Price	Historical Unit Price	Variance *Unit Price
Base Order	Midwest Bus Corporation	25	Wheelchair Lift	\$14,550	\$14,550	None
Option Order	Midwest Bus Corporation	25	Wheelchair Lift	\$14,800	N/A	N/A

The recommended bid price of \$ 792,450 has been determined to be fair and reasonable based upon adequate price competition and selection of the lowest responsive and responsible sealed bid and price analysis performed by the Procurement Officer.

SMALL BUSINESS PARTICIPATION

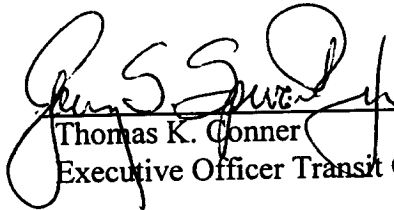
The Small Business Diversity Unit (SBD) did not recommend a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) participation goal for this procurement. Based on industry practices, it is expected that the Prime Contractor (Prime) will provide all products with minimal, if any, subcontracting. SBD provided a list of DBE firms to be outreached as potential Primes when the project was advertised. The availability of DBE firms in this service area provides an excellent opportunity for DBE firms to compete for prime contracts with the MTA.


Pursuant to the DBE Program requirements, if the Prime proposes to use the services of subcontractors, the Prime is expected to afford maximum opportunities to DBEs in subcontract and supply service areas. Upon request, the Prime is required to submit documentation to satisfy that good faith efforts were made to utilize DBEs throughout the life of the contract.

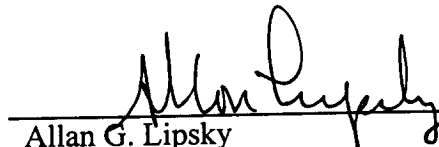
ATTACHMENTS

- A. Procurement Summary
- B. Bid Tabulation

Prepared by: Joanne Cummings, Senior Buyer
Roger Flynn, Inventory Planning Manager


Thomas K. Conner
Executive Officer Transit Operations

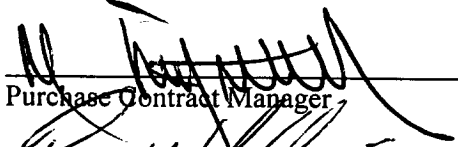

Colonus Mitchell
Executive Officer Procurement

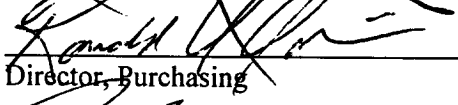

Allan G. Lipsky
Office of the Chief Executive Officer


Procurement: Wheelchair Lifts
Board Date: June 28, 2001

BOARD REPORT ATTACHMENT "A"
PROCUREMENT SUMMARY
SEALED BID

1.	Independent Estimate: \$500,000
2.	Recommended Vendor:
	Name: Midwest Bus Corporation
	City: Owosso, Michigan
	Total Dollar Amount: \$392,850
3.	Description of Equipment or Material: Wheelchair Lifts
4.	Contract Type: Requirement/Firm Fixed Price
5.	Issued Date: March 28, 2001
6.	Advertised Date: March 28, 2001
7.	DBE Participation Goal? 0%
8.	No. of Bid notifications sent : 15
9.	No. of Bids Picked up by Vendors: None
10.	Pre-Bid Conference: April; 11, 2001
11.	Date bids opened: May 2, 2001
12.	No. of bids received: 5
	Staff analysis:
13.	(see attached bid tab sheet)
	Protest Received: None
14.	Disposition of Protest/Appeal:
15.	Award to Other than Low Bid: No
16.	Conflict of Interest form submitted to Ethics: Yes
17.	EO Evaluation Completed:
18.	Pre-Qualification Completed Yes
19.	Audit Report Status: N/A
20.	Buyer: Joanne Cummings
21.	Tel: 922-1035
22.	Project Manager: Roger Flynn
23.	Tel: 922 - 5712

Concur: 
Purchase Contract Manager

Concur: 
Director, Purchasing

Concur: 
Deputy Executive Officer, Procurement

LOS ANGELES COUNTY METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY BID TABULATION

Bid No: 050102 Wheelchair Lifts

Bids Out: 03/28/01
 Total 15
 Bids Opened: 05/02/01
 Total 5
 No Bids: 1
 Advertisement Date(s):
03/28/01
 Newspaper: Daily News

		Midwest Bus Corporation		Neopart		Gillig		Nabi		Complete Coach Works	
Description	Quantity	Unit Price	Extension	Unit Price	Extension	Unit Price	Extension	Unit Price	Extension	Unit Price	Extension
Wheelchair Lifts	25	\$14,550.00	\$363,750.00	\$14,560.30	\$364,007.50	\$14,645.00	\$366,125.00	\$14,881.57	\$372,039.25	\$18,382.00	\$459,550.00
Sub Total			\$363,750.00		\$364,007.50		\$366,125.00		\$372,039.25		\$459,550.00
Terms/Cash Discount			NET 30		NET 30		NET 30		NET 30		NET 30
Sales Tax 8%			\$29,100.00		\$29,120.60		\$29,290.00		\$29,763.14		\$36,764.00
Total			\$392,850.00		\$393,128.10		\$395,415.00		\$401,802.39		\$496,314.00
Brand		Lift-U/Hogan		Lift-U		Lift-U		Lift-U		Lift-U	
Model		Llacmta lu-2		LU-2-10.02		lu2-10-02		Lu-2		2-10-02	

I hereby certify Midwest Corporation as being the lowest responsible bidder and recommend the award to them for total price, including sales tax, of \$392,850.00.

5-9-01
Date


Signature