



**SUBJECT: PEST CONTROL SERVICES**

**ACTION: RECEIVE AND FILE**

Metropolitan  
Transportation  
Authority

One Gateway Plaza  
Los Angeles, CA  
90012-2952

**RECOMMENDATION**

Receive and file report for the procurements of vehicles and facilities pest control services, as immediate remedial measures.

**ISSUE**

Two separate six month interim contracts for pest control were issued to Orkin for vehicles and Terminix for facilities as an immediate remedial measure under Public Utilities Code (PUC) Section 130235 at a total cost of \$61,763 for the vehicles and \$177,750 for the facilities.

**BACKGROUND**

**Vehicles**

The existing pest control contractor has provided pest control services for MTA facilities, bus and rail since 1999. The current contract was terminated in September 2002. From May 2001 through July 2001, several buses were removed from service for cockroach activity. In August 2001, Quality Assurance staff met with the contractor's representatives to discuss an action plan to eliminate the infestation problem. The contractor assured MTA staff they would eliminate the infestation problems by the end of September 2001. The infestation complaints continued to increase at various operating bus divisions.

In January 2002, Quality Assurance and Procurement staff met with the contractor's management staff to discuss the continued infestation complaints. Staff expressed concern over the effectiveness of the chemicals used and the frequency of service. The contractor in turn expressed concern over the lack of cleanliness of the MTA buses serviced and their belief that this was a contributing factor to the infestation problem. Over the following months, staff continued to meet with the contractor on the infestation problem. Since staff and the contractor could not reach a meeting of the minds, in August 2002 the contractor requested a mutual agreement to terminate the contract, effective February 1, 2003. Following receipt of the letter, MTA staff contacted the contractor's management. In this telephone call, MTA staff was informed by the contractor that they would no longer be providing regular service

and would only respond to emergency calls through February 1, 2003. Given the immediate concern over the infestation problem, staff terminated the vehicles portion of the contract after an interim contract was awarded to Orkin as a result of a limited competitive selection process, as further described in the Discussion section of this report. This immediate remedial action for MTA buses was necessary to satisfy an urgent need to treat pest infestation problems in order to ensure the sufficient numbers of buses and rail cars were available to meet the transportation needs of the general public.

Effective pest control is required to ensure a sanitary and healthful environment for our customers who travel on buses and rail cars. In order to accomplish these objectives, the MTA contracts with outside pest control companies to provide required services.

### **Facilities**

As a result of the immediate remedial actions taken for vehicle fleet pest control issues, a subsequent immediate remedial action for MTA facilities was necessary. MTA facilities continued to experience an increase in pest infestation causing an urgent need to alleviate the problems. As such, solicitation of proposals from Orkin, Terminix International and Western Exterminators were requested to provide required services for a six-month period. Terminix International was awarded the interim contract since they were the lowest priced firm.

### **DISCUSSION**

As a result of recent pest infestations, a review of the pest control program was conducted and it was determined that the current specifications for both vehicle and facilities pest control services were not adequate to control the infestation problems. During discussions concerning the specifications for services with the current contractor, the current contractor requested that the contract be mutually terminated, effective February 1, 2003.

Utilizing PUC Section 130235, price quotations from three pest control companies were requested and a contract for vehicle pest control was awarded to Orkin Pest Control, Inc. A second set of price quotations was requested from the same three pest control companies and a contract for facilities pest control was awarded to Terminix. For each of the procurements, the contract was awarded to the lowest priced, responsive and responsible company.

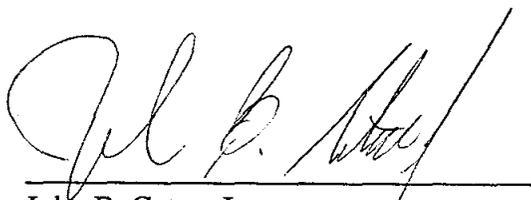
### **NEXT STEPS**

Staff will initiate a formal Request for Proposals for a multi-year contract to replace the interim procurements and return to the Board for approval.

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