

ORDINANCE NO. 023-47

AN ORDINANCE DECLARING PUBLIC
BIDDING DISADVANTAGEOUS AND
AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH
TEXTMARKS, INC. FOR TEXT
MESSAGING SERVICES FOR THE
AUTHORITY'S BUS TRACKER
TEXTING SYSTEM

WHEREAS, The Chicago Transit Authority ("Authority") requires text messaging services for its Bus Tracker texting system; and

WHEREAS, The Bus Tracker texting system allows customers to subscribe to and request text messages for bus arrival predictions, with 11,000 bus signs promoting the alerts and an estimated average of 75,000 text messages sent and received through the system per day; and

WHEREAS, Textmarks, Inc. is the current provider of these services and changing the provider would require the Authority to obtain a new short code, update the text messaging information on all bus stop signs, and engage a new short messaging service (SMS) provider, and such a transition to another provider at this time would cause a disruption of the text messaging services to customers; and

WHEREAS, This procurement was reviewed and approved by the Authority's Sole Source/Disadvantageous Review Committee (SDRC) following no other vendor responses to its advertisement on the Authority's website for a period of three weeks; and

WHEREAS, Section 1.4D of the Procurement Policy and Procedures provides for the award of contracts when the Transit Board determines that competitive public bidding would be disadvantageous and federal funds are not utilized; and

WHEREAS, Staff recommends the award of a contract to Textmarks, Inc. under Requisition No. B22OP04016 for text messaging services for the Authority's Bus Tracker system for thirty-six months in an amount not to exceed \$784,800; now, therefore:

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CHICAGO TRANSIT BOARD
OF THE CHICAGO TRANSIT AUTHORITY:

SECTION 1. Based on the statements set forth in the preamble of this ordinance, the Chicago Transit Board hereby determines that competitive public bidding for this requirement is disadvantageous.

SECTION 2. The Chairman of the Board, the President of the Authority, and the Vice President of Purchasing and Supply Chain, or their designees, are hereby authorized to execute a contract with Textmarks, Inc. for text messaging services for the

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Authority's Bus Tracker system for thirty-six (36) months in an amount not to exceed Seven Hundred Eighty-Four Thousand Eight Hundred Dollars (\$784,800.00).

SECTION 3. The Chairman, President, and Vice President of Purchasing and Supply Chain, or their designees, are further authorized to take such actions and execute such documents as may be necessary to implement the objectives of this ordinance.

SECTION 4. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage.

APPROVED:

PASSED:

Chairman

Secretary

April 12, 2023

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