



Date: June 29, 2012

To: Thomas J. Bonfield, City Manager
Through: Theodore L. Voorhees, Deputy City Manager
From: Mark D. Ahrendsen, Transportation Director
Harmon E. Crutchfield, Assistant Transportation Director
Subject: City Parking Facilities Gate Access Equipment

Executive Summary

In consultation with Lanier Parking, the Department of Transportation is recommending the replacement and upgrade of gate access equipment in the City's parking facilities. Most of this equipment is over 20 years old and consistently experiences breakdowns, thus requiring untimely repairs that negatively impact the level of customer service and revenue collection. The new equipment would benefit the City in three areas: Reliability, Automation and Customer Service.

Funding for the parking facilities equipment was included in the FY 2012 parking budget. The City issued a bid for new equipment on June 6, 2012. Bids were received on June 26, 2012. The lowest bid was received from Southern Time Equipment Co., Inc. in the amount of \$293,825.14.

Recommendation

It is recommended that City Council authorize the City Manager to accept the lowest bid in the amount of \$293,825.14 for parking facilities access equipment from Southern Time Equipment Co., Inc. and to enter into a purchase contract with Southern Time Equipment Co., Inc., in the amount of \$302,325.14 which includes Bid Alternative 1 in the amount of \$8,500.

Background

Since 2008, the City of Durham has made significant renovation improvements within the Durham Centre, Corcoran, and Church Street garages. In addition, the Durham Centre garage has received new parking garage equipment as part of the garage renovation. In the meantime, since the fall of 2010, the City has been consulting with Lanier Parking about the equipment upgrade needs within the remaining parking garages, Chapel Hill Street, Church Street, Corcoran Street, and other surface lots. The City and Lanier have developed the equipment needs, requested and received funding for the purchase, and bid for the new equipment.

Bid Received:	
Southern Time Equipment Co., Inc.	\$293,825.14
Scheidt & Bachman	\$533,658.40
Innovative Parking Concepts	\$616,932.79

Alternative 1:	
Southern Time Equipment Co., Inc.	\$ 8,500.00
Scheidt & Bachman	\$ 0.00
Innovative Parking Concepts	\$ 9,508.20

Issues/Analysis

The current parking facilities gate equipment has become extremely unreliable due to malfunctioning of its component parts. This consistently inconveniences our parking customers and results in lost revenue. The current equipment was purchased over 20 years ago and many of the parts cannot be replaced and/or repaired any longer. The upgrade of the equipment would benefit the City in three areas: Reliability, Automation, and Expanded Customer Service.

- 1) Reliability - The current gate equipment has become extremely unreliable due to the malfunctioning of its component parts. This results in frequent inconvenience for our customers and loss of revenue. The current equipment was purchased over 20 years ago and many of the parts cannot be replaced and/or repaired any longer.
- 2) Automation – Lanier has been implementing parking access control system automation throughout many of their locations over the past five years. This new parking automated technology has proven to not only decrease labor expenses, but has also assisted Lanier in significantly increasing net parking revenue in these same locations. In addition, the new devices will provide credit card and cash capability and is expected to reduce the percentage of lost tickets.
- 3) Expanded Customer Service – There are a few surface lots that are operating with dated Scan Net equipment for monthly parkers. Management must physically go to each sight to update the current paid monthly access with a handheld device. This method is not only labor intensive, but it also does not meet our oversight standards. The new equipment will include two Digital Pay stations on Lot #8, replacing the cashiering method. This will provide an excellent opportunity to introduce the convenience aspects of processing payments with Digital Pay stations that may subsequently be expanded to other locations. Currently, Lot Nos. 14 and 20 support monthly customers but with the right equipment could also serve transient parkers. With the new equipment, monthly parkers at these surface lots would be managed through hangtag enforcement and transient parkers' usage would be accommodated through a Digital Pay station.

Alternatives

- 1) It is recommended that City Council to authorize the City Manager to accept the lowest bid for the purchase of the new parking facilities equipment with Southern Time Equipment Co., Inc. and execute purchase agreement with Southern Time Equipment Co., Inc.
- 2) The City Council can choose not to authorize the City Manager to accept the lowest bid for purchase of the new parking facilities equipment. Without the new parking facilities equipment, the City will continue to use the current equipment, which has inherent efficiency and operational limitations. This alternative is not recommended.

Financial Impact

The cost of the Parking Facilities Gate Access Equipment upgrade is \$302,325.14. Funding has been established within the FY 2013 budget using account 58004200-732300.

SDBE Summary

The Department of Equal Opportunity/Equity Assurance reviewed the bid submitted by Southern Time Equipment Co. of Wilson NC and have determined that they are in compliance with the Ordinance to Promote Equal Business Opportunities in City Contracting.

SDBE Requirements

There were no SDBE firms to provide this service.

Workforce Statistics

The workforce statistics for **Southern Time Equipment Co., Inc.** are as follows:

Total Workforce	12	100%
Total Female	3	16%
Total Males	9	84%
Black Males	0	0%
White Males	9	84%
Other Males	0	0%
Black Females	0	0%
White Females	3	16%
Other Females	0	0%

Attachment

Purchase Contract