


**Date:** March 27, 2024

**To:** Board of Directors

**From:** Sam Desue, Jr. 

**Subject:** **RESOLUTION NO. 24-03-14 OF THE TRI-COUNTY METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT OF OREGON (TRIMET) AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT MODIFICATION WITH TAIT NORTH AMERICA, INC. (TAIT) TO UPGRADE TRIMET RADIO CORE SERVERS, SOFTWARE AND DIGITAL RADIO TOWER EQUIPMENT**

**1. Purpose of Item**

This Resolution requests that the TriMet Board of Directors (Board) authorize the General Manager or his designee to execute a contract modification (Modification) with Tait North America, Inc., dba Tait Communications (Tait) to upgrade TriMet's radio core servers, software and digital radio tower equipment.

**2. Type of Agenda Item**

- ☐ Initial Contract
- ☒ Contract Modification
- ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

**3. Type of Contract Procurement**

- ☐ Low Bid / Invitation to Bid (ITB)
- ☐ Request for Proposals (RFP) (inc. CM/GC)
- ☐ Request for Qualifications (RFQ) (Personal Services)
- ☒ Other (inc. sole source) Sole Source

**4. Reason for Board Action**

Board authorization is required for all contract Modifications that exceed the amount authorized by the Board and that obligate TriMet to expend more than \$1,000,000.

**5. Type of Action**

- ☒ Resolution
- ☐ Ordinance 1<sup>st</sup> Reading
- ☐ Ordinance 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading
- ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

**6. Background**

Under the overall management of the Information Technology (IT) Division, TriMet's Land Mobile Radio System (Radio System) is a mission critical, high priority communication system that is essential to public safety and day-to-day operations. TriMet uses equipment, software, and services from Tait to support the Radio System, which also provides critical backup communications for TriMet's cellular connections.

The Radio System incorporates approximately 3,050 radios, which are installed in vehicles and facilities throughout the District. These include:

- 800 in buses,
- 280 in light rail vehicles,
- 270 in paratransit vehicles,
- 100 in non-revenue supervisor vehicles,
- 100 in fixed locations inside buildings, and
- 1500 handheld devices in use by supervisors, transit police, security and other personnel.

The Radio System also contains nine fixed sites (two central control sites and seven remote radio sites) connected by TriMet's private microwave links and IT fiber network. The remote sites ensure signal coverage over TriMet's tri-county operating area. The fixed sites include Radio System servers, software, and digital radio tower equipment.

In May of 2021, TriMet entered into a \$350,000 contract with Tait to provide equipment and maintenance services, plus minor improvements to the radio system, on an "as needed" basis. The contract has a termination date of March 31, 2024. Due to the proprietary nature of the communications technology, the original contract with Tait was awarded as Sole Source.

In December of 2021, via Resolution No. 21-12-49, the Board authorized a substantial modification to the Tait contract, adding \$2,233,000 to upgrade the Radio System core servers, software, and digital radio tower equipment, which were then reaching the end of their useful life. The modification established a new total contract amount of \$2,583,000, and retained the original March 31, 2024 termination date. The new equipment supports improved standards that doubled the capacity of the core system.

This request seeks a Modification of the existing contract by adding \$616,744, for a new total contract amount of \$3,199,744, and extending the contract's termination date through November of 2025. The Modification will provide for continued improvements to the Radio System by replacing components that are reaching the end of their useful life. It will also allow improvements that will enable TriMet to implement a temporary radio control site in the event of an emergency, which will establish a new level of disaster recovery capability. The extension of the termination date will give TriMet time to complete the proposed work and procure a replacement contract for its Radio System equipment and services.

**7. Diversity**

Tait North America currently employs 82 people, approximately 37% of whom are female and 35% of whom are minorities

**8. Financial/Budget Impact**

This Project is funded as part of TriMet's Capital Improvement Program and is included in the IT Division's approved FY2024 budget.

**9. Impact if Not Approved**

If the Modification is not approved, TriMet will be unable to maintain and upgrade its Radio System under its current schedule, resulting in deferred maintenance and additional failure risk, nor acquire the enhanced emergency capability to create a temporary radio control site.

**RESOLUTION NO. 24-03-14**

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TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT OF OREGON (TRIMET) AUTHORIZING  
A CONTRACT MODIFICATION WITH TAIT NORTH AMERICA, INC.  
(TAIT) TO UPGRADE TRIMET RADIO CORE SERVERS, SOFTWARE  
AND DIGITAL RADIO TOWER EQUIPMENT**

**WHEREAS**, TriMet has authority under ORS 267.200 to enter into a contract modification (Modification) with Tait North America, Inc., dba Tait Communications (Tait) to upgrade TriMet's radio core servers, software and digital radio tower equipment and to extend the contract term; and

**WHEREAS**, the amount of the Modification is \$616,744, and the contract term extension is through November 2025; and

**WHEREAS**, the total amount of the Modification exceeds the authorized contract amount of \$2,583,000, and establishes a new total contract amount of \$3,199,744; and

**WHEREAS**, by Resolution No. 22-05-35, dated May 25, 2022, the TriMet Board of Directors (Board) adopted a Statement of Policies requiring it to authorize all contracts obligating TriMet to pay in excess of \$1,000,000;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:**

1. That the Modification shall conform with applicable law.
2. That the General Manager or his designee is authorized to execute the Modification in the amount of not more than \$616,744, for a new total contract amount of not to exceed \$3,199,744, and to extend the contract term through November 2025.

Dated: March 27, 2024

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Presiding Officer

Attest:

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Recording Secretary

Approved as to Legal Sufficiency:



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Legal Department