



***April 27, 2017***

**To:** Transit Committee

**From:** Darrell Johnson, Chief Executive Officer

**Subject:** Agreement for Hydrogen Gas Detection Upgrades and Ventilation System Modification at the Santa Ana Bus Base

***Overview***

The Orange County Transportation Authority's Board of Directors approved hydrogen gas detection upgrades and a ventilation system modification at the Santa Ana Bus Base as part of the Orange County Transportation Authority's Fiscal Year 2016-17 Budget. Bids were received in accordance with the Orange County Transportation Authority's public works procurement procedures. Board of Directors' approval is requested to execute the agreement.

***Recommendation***

Authorize the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and execute Agreement No. C-7-1529 between the Orange County Transportation Authority and Clean Energy, a California corporation, the lowest responsive, responsible bidder, in the amount of \$80,405, for hydrogen gas detection upgrades and a ventilation system modification at the Santa Ana Bus Base.

***Discussion***

The Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) completed construction of the Santa Ana Bus Base in 2005. Facility modifications were made in 2007 to comply with requirements for operation and maintenance of compressed natural gas buses. On January 11, 2016, staff informed the OCTA Board of Directors (Board) of an opportunity for OCTA to serve as the transit operator for a two-year single hydrogen fuel cell bus demonstration, grant funded through the National Fuel Cell Bus Program. The purpose for the demonstration is to gain knowledge about the overall operation of the hydrogen gas detection upgrades and ventilation system modifications (Project) through actual use, data collection, and data reporting. On February 22, 2016, the OCTA Board approved the cooperative agreement between OCTA and the Center for Transportation

and the Environment (CTE), the grant lead, which defines responsibilities of OCTA, and CTE under the Project.

As required by the cooperative agreement, OCTA must provide a fire code-compliant area in the existing maintenance facility for regular maintenance and inspection of the hydrogen fuel cell electric bus. Design of the necessary facility modifications to meet the requirement were completed on January 11, 2017. The facility modifications include installation of two hydrogen gas detection devices, interfacing and programming new hydrogen gas detectors into existing gas detection control panel, installation of one hydrogen flame detector, interfacing and programming the new flame detector into existing fire alarm control panel, and installation of one audible alarm and related warning lights, all related electrical conduit and wiring, and a ventilation exhaust fan upgrade. Under the Demonstration Project, the single hydrogen fuel cell bus will be fueled at a hydrogen fueling station located at the University of California, Irvine. No hydrogen fueling facility modifications are being made under the Project. OCTA facilities engineering staff worked closely with CTE and OCTA transit maintenance and operations staff to deliver plans and specifications for the Project.

### ***Procurement Approach***

The procurement was handled in accordance with OCTA's Board-approved procedures for public works projects. These procedures, which conform to both federal and state requirements, require that contracts are awarded to the lowest responsive, responsible bidder after a sealed bidding process.

Invitation for Bids (IFB) 7-1529 was released on February 9, 2017, through OCTA's CAMM NET system. The Project was advertised on February 10 and 17, 2017, in a newspaper of general circulation. A pre-bid conference and job walk were held on February 16, 2017, and were attended by three firms. Two addenda were issued to make available the pre-bid conference registration sheets and handle administrative issues related to the IFB. On April 7, 2017, two bids were received and publicly opened.

Both bids were reviewed by staff from both Contracts Administration and Materials Management and Facilities Engineering departments to ensure compliance with the contract terms and conditions, and technical specifications. The list of bidders and bid amounts are presented below:

<u>Firm and Location</u>	<u>Bid Amount</u>
Clean Energy, a California corporation Newport Beach, California	\$80,405
EFS West Valencia, California	\$81,133

The engineer's estimate for the Project was \$81,800. The recommended firm's bid is 1.7 percent lower than the engineer's estimate and is considered by staff to be fair and reasonable.

State law requires award to the lowest responsive, responsible bidder. Staff recommends award to Clean Energy, a California corporation, the lowest responsive, responsible bidder, in the amount of \$80,405, for the Project.

#### Fiscal Impact

The Project was approved in OCTA's Fiscal Year 2016-17 Budget, Capital Programs Division, Account 1722-9022-D3126-08T, and is funded by Federal Transit Administration grant funds through the CTE.

#### ***Summary***

Based on the information provided, staff recommends the Board authorize the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and execute Agreement No. C-7-1529 between the Orange County Transportation Authority and Clean Energy, a California corporation, the lowest responsive, responsible bidder, in the amount of \$80,405, for hydrogen gas detection upgrades and a ventilation system modification at the Santa Ana Bus Base.

***Attachment***

None.

**Prepared by:**



George Olivo, P.E.  
Program Manager, Rail & Facilities  
(714) 560-5872

**Approved by:**



James G. Beil, P.E.  
Executive Director, Capital Programs  
(714) 560-5646



Virginia Abadessa  
Director, Contracts Administration and  
Materials Management  
(714) 560-5623