

MIAMI BEACH

COMMISSION MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Commission

FROM: Rickelle Williams, Interim City Manager

DATE: July 24, 2024

TITLE: A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA, ACCEPTING THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE CITY MANAGER PURSUANT TO INVITATION TO NEGOTIATE NO. 2024-289-ND, FOR TRAFFIC SIGNAL OPTIMIZATION SYSTEM; AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATION TO ENTER INTO NEGOTIATIONS FOR PHASE I WITH RHYTHM ENGINEERING, LLC, AS THE TOP-RANKED PROPOSER; FURTHER, IF THE ADMINISTRATION IS NOT SUCCESSFUL IN NEGOTIATING AN AGREEMENT WITH RHYTHM ENGINEERING, LLC, AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATION TO ENTER INTO NEGOTIATIONS WITH 360 NETWORK SOLUTIONS, LLC, AS THE SECOND-RANKED PROPOSER; FURTHER, IF THE ADMINISTRATION IS NOT SUCCESSFUL IN NEGOTIATING AN AGREEMENT WITH 360 NETWORK SOLUTIONS, LLC, AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATION TO ENTER INTO NEGOTIATIONS WITH GRIDMATRIX INC., AS THE THIRD-RANKED PROPOSER; AND FURTHER AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER AND CITY CLERK TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT FOR PHASE I UPON CONCLUSION OF SUCCESSFUL NEGOTIATIONS BY THE ADMINISTRATION. (TRANSPORTATION)

RECOMMENDATION

The City Administration (“Administration”) recommends that the Mayor and City Commission (“City Commission”) approve the Resolution.

The solicitation is currently under the cone of silence.

BACKGROUND/HISTORY

The City of Miami Beach attracts millions of visitors annually, which fosters a vibrant economy and draws a diverse workforce from outside the City. The City's popularity has resulted in traffic demand exceeding roadway capacity. As a consequence, the City is challenged by persistent traffic congestion, particularly during peak traffic periods and high-impact periods. The congestion hampers the flow of traffic, disrupting daily commutes and adversely impacting the quality of life of residents, visitors, and the workforce.

One of the tools to help manage traffic congestion is to employ an innovative traffic signal optimization software to develop comprehensive signal timing plans that will more efficiently and effectively coordinate signalized intersections along major thoroughfares throughout the year and adjust for seasonal variations. This strategic approach aims to optimize traffic signal timing and reduce travel times within the City, thus enhancing mobility and ensuring a more pleasant experience for drivers traveling in the City.

In order to consider proposals for innovative solutions to traffic signal optimization, the Administration developed Invitation to Negotiate (ITN) 2024-289-ND seeking to award an agreement with a prospective vendor in two (2) phases. Phase 1 will consist of a short-term pilot program to be approved by the City Commission. The roadway corridor to be evaluated as part

of the Phase 1 pilot program, and the terms of the pilot program will be negotiated with the selected proposer through the negotiation process. Phase 2 of the agreement may include a three (3) year term, with optional renewal periods, contingent upon approval by the City Commission and, if applicable, the Florida Department of Transportation (“FDOT”) and Miami-Dade County Department of Transportation and Public Works (“DTPW”). It is important to note that Miami-Dade County has jurisdictional authority and purview over traffic engineering functions and traffic signal operations and maintenance in Miami-Dade County, including within incorporated municipalities. Thus, the implementation of any traffic signal optimization system, whether on a pilot or permanent basis, requires DTPW review and approval.

ANALYSIS

On April 3, 2024, the City Commission authorized the issuance of ITN No. 2024-289-ND, for Traffic Signal Optimization System. On April 5, 2024, the ITN was issued. A voluntary pre-proposal conference to provide information to prospective proposers was held on April 17, 2024, and on April 23, 2024, five (5) addenda were issued, and 85 prospective bidders accessed the advertised solicitation. ITN responses were due and received on June 14, 2024. The City received a total of seven (7) proposals from the following firms:

- 360 Network Solutions, LLC
- CHA Consulting, Inc.
- Flo Artificial Intelligence, Inc.
- Gridmatrix Inc.
- Rhythm Engineering, LLC
- Temple, Inc.
- Transportation Solutions & Lighting, Inc.

The proposal from Transportation Solutions & Lighting, Inc. was deemed non-responsive for failure to meet the minimum eligibility requirement of the ITN and was not further evaluated.

On June 20, 2024, the City Manager appointed the Evaluation Committee (the “Committee”) via Letter to Commission (“LTC”) # 249-2024. The Committee convened on June 27, 2024 to consider proposals received. The Committee was comprised of Joe L. Gomez, P.E., Director, Public Works Department; Maria C. Hernandez, Traffic Engineer III, Traffic Signals and Signs Division, Department of Transportation and Public Works, Miami-Dade County; Otniel Rodriguez, Assistant Director, Transportation and Mobility Department; and Ramon Sierra, P.E., Traffic Services Program Engineer, Florida Department of Transportation.

The Committee was provided an overview of the project and information relative to the City’s Cone of Silence Ordinance and the Government Sunshine Law. The Committee was also provided with general information on the scope of services and a copy of each proposal. The Committee was instructed to score and rank each proposal pursuant to the evaluation criteria established in the ITN. The results of the Evaluation Committee process are detailed in Attachment A and resulted in the following rankings:

- 1st ranked – Rhythm Engineering, LLC
- 2nd ranked – 360 Network Solutions, LLC
- 3rd ranked – Gridmatrix Inc.
- 4th ranked – CHA Consulting, Inc.
- 5th ranked – Flo Artificial Intelligence, Inc.
- 6th ranked – Temple, Inc.

The Committee deemed Rhythm Engineering, LLC (“Rhythm Engineering”) the most-qualified firm to provide a traffic signal optimization system. The Committee noted that Rhythm Engineering’s experience with both adaptive and non-adaptive systems would be advantageous

for the City in choosing the most suitable system. The Committee also mentioned that Rhythm Engineering is not only the manufacturer of In|Sync, the only real-time adaptive system tailored to the actual demands and delays at intersections, but is also the engineering firm that will provide the professional services. The Committee emphasized that In|Sync is operational at over 3,200 intersections across 33 states and more than 155 cities in the United States and Canada, demonstrating Rhythm Engineering's experience in significant improvements in traffic flow and safety. The Committee also mentioned that Rhythm Engineering has partnered with Ultra Engineering, which has been working with the Transportation and Mobility Department on the Intelligent Transportation System ("ITS") and Smart Parking System ("SPS") Design-Build-Operate-Maintain Project, and thus is familiar with the City's transportation infrastructure. Finally, the Committee also highlighted that Rhythm Engineering has a working history with the FDOT and Miami-Dade County, as it has successfully implemented its fully adaptive In|Sync solution for 30 intersections along the SW 8th Street corridor.

Rhythm Engineering, founded in 2005 in Kansas, has consistently innovated in the traffic sector. For six (6) consecutive years, it was the 64th fastest-growing company on the INC 500 list and holds five patents for its revolutionary traffic management technologies. Rhythm Engineering delivers advanced traffic management solutions, including traffic signal timing optimization, adaptive traffic signal control, vehicle and pedestrian detection, travel time measurement, connected vehicle technology, and automated data collection. Finally, Rhythm Engineering has provided similar services to the Maricopa Department of Transportation, the Florida Department of Transportation, and the Cities of Surprise, Peoria, Glendale, Phoenix, and Scottsdale, among others. All references provided positive feedback.

The Committee also deemed 360 Network Solutions, LLC and Gridmatrix Inc. well-qualified and should be considered if the negotiations with Rhythm Engineering, LLC are not successful.

360 Network Solutions, LLC (360ns) was established in October 2012 and has its headquarters in Marietta, Georgia. The company consists of five divisions: cyber and physical security, program management, technology and integration, hardware/software distribution, and deployment services. 360ns has 12 employees, consisting of professional engineers, professional managers, designers, and certified technical and operational staff who cover the Georgia, Florida, and Virginia offices. 360ns has an extensive, long-lasting history working closely with transportation and tolling authorities, delivering and supporting advanced traffic signal management and optimization systems throughout the country. Accordingly, 360ns has provided similar services to Gwinnett County, the City of Atlanta, and the City of Franklin, among others. All references provided positive feedback.

Gridmatrix Inc. was co-founded in 2021 by a team of former Apple engineering and operations colleagues with a combined 22 patents and 100 years of experience at America's leading technology companies, including Apple, Amazon, and Google. GridMatrix's mission is to help cities understand their streets through data. GridMatrix's solutions turn any existing or new roadway sensors into actionable data sources and provide insights that make American communities safer, greener, and more equitable. Gridmatrix has provided similar services locally to the City of Sarasota and the Florida Department of Transportation. All references provided positive feedback.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

The Transportation and Mobility Department has budgeted \$300,000 in its Fiscal Year 2023/2024 Operating Budget to fund a traffic signal optimization pilot program. The final cost of the pilot program will be established through the negotiation process with the selected vendor. Services pursuant to the award of this ITN shall be subject to successful negotiations and the availability of funds approved through the City's budgeting process.

Does this Ordinance require a Business Impact Estimate?
(FOR ORDINANCES ONLY)

The Business Impact Estimate (BIE) was published on . See BIE at:
<https://www.miamibeachfl.gov/city-hall/city-clerk/meeting-notice/>

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

106-9615-000325-30-403-529-00-00-00	\$300,000
-------------------------------------	-----------

CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing, the Administration recommends that the City Commission approve the Resolution authorizing the Administration to enter into negotiations for Phase I, with Rhythm Engineering, LLC, as the top-ranked proposer; further, if the Administration is not successful in negotiating an agreement with Rhythm Engineering, LLC, authorizing the Administration to enter into negotiations with 360 Network Solutions, LLC, as the second-ranked proposer; further, if the Administration is not successful in negotiating an agreement with 360 Network Solutions, LLC, authorizing the Administration to enter into negotiations with Gridmatrix Inc., as the third-ranked proposer; and further authorizing the City Manager and City Clerk to execute an agreement for Phase I upon conclusion of successful negotiations by the Administration.

Applicable Area

Citywide

Is this a “Residents Right to Know” item, pursuant to City Code Section 2-17?

No

Is this item related to a G.O. Bond Project?

No

Was this Agenda Item initially requested by a lobbyist which, as defined in Code Sec. 2-481, includes a principal engaged in lobbying? No

If so, specify the name of lobbyist(s) and principal(s): N/A

Department

Procurement

Sponsor(s)

Mayor Steven Meiner

Co-sponsor(s)

Commissioner David Suarez
Commissioner Laura Dominguez

Condensed Title

Award ITN 2024-289-ND, Traffic Signal Optimization System. (Meiner/Suarez/Dominguez)
TR/PR