

MEMORANDUM

To: City Council

From: David Deutsch
City Manager

Subject: Request to Waive Bidding Requirements of Section 61 of City Charter to Allow the City Manager to Contract for Services for the Bowie Police Department with a Company Whose Unique Mobile License Plate Recognition System is Already in Use by BPD. This System is funded by a Grant from the Maryland Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention (GOCCP) – **Resolution R-4-10**

Date: January 4, 2010

The City of Bowie has received a grant from the Grant from the Maryland Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention (GOCCP) in the amount of \$21,000.00 for the purchase of hardware, software, and other services to equip the Bowie Police Department with a Mobile License Plate Recognition System.. A major vendor for this equipment, ELSAG North America, is currently providing these systems to the Bowie Police Department through a previous procurement. The new system is an additional system consistent with the current one and compatible with existing hardware and software.

The ELSAG System is characterized by the following:

"ELSAG is proud to be the most widely deployed License Plate Recognition equipment in Maryland, today our system is in use by more than 25 Maryland police departments. The National Capitol Region grant for LPR technology will deploy an additional 70 ELSAG MPH900 mobile systems in Maryland, most of which will be operational in Prince Georges County."

"The ELSAG North America MPH900 is the only LPR system available that:

- Can be networked to Bowie's existing LPR system and the additional system Bowie PD is receiving as part of the National Capitol Region LPR project.
- Has the ability to be networked to systems in place with over 600 other U.S. law enforcement agencies including: DEA, FBI, U.S. Secret Service, U.S. Marshal Service, Arizona DPS, Colorado State Patrol, Ohio State Highway Patrol, Maryland State Police, NYPD, New York State Police, Tennessee Highway Patrol, Virginia State Police and over 40 D.C. area agencies.
- Can be networked today with existing MPD LPR equipment with no development costs.

- Is part of a 200+ unit networked installation at a single agency (NYPD).
- Features a secure magnetically mounted transportable LPR system with an installation that can readily be interchanged between vehicles in minutes or permanently attached.
- Is available in a variety of mobile covert solutions and covert fixed systems designed for rapid investigative deployment and long range communication.
- Allows the use of a single computer in vehicle for all police functions including LPR.
- Includes the software that allows central management of LPR data from all cars and sources in the enterprise via both short and long range communication mediums.
- Has the capability to network transportable and fixed systems in a single operations center for consolidated search.
- Includes comprehensive in-car reporting for operator use including mapping.
- Can read plates from all 50 states in any lighting condition without external I/R at up to 85'
- Is supported with commercially available inventory deliverable within days.
- Is manufactured in the United States (Greensboro, NC) and offers 24/7/365 tech support.
- Is part of the worlds largest mobile LPR deployment, with expertise from supporting a 5500 car base of operations and proven success supporting the technology.
- Accurately reads and processes Maryland license plates at over 95% accuracy and features over 50 customized regional protocols."

DISCUSSION: Staff has evaluated the ELSAG North America system and concludes that the system will enable them increase capacity, maintain compatibility with existing systems, and fulfill its requirements for the grant with GOCCP.

RECOMMENDATIONS: We recommend that Council adopt Resolution R-4-10 and authorize the Waiver of Section 61 of the City Charter in order to purchase the mobile license plate recognition system from ELSAG North America.

RESOLUTION
BY TWO-THIRDS VOTE
OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BOWIE, MARYLAND
WAIVING THE BIDDING REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION 61 OF THE CITY
CHARTER TO ALLOW THE CITY TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH ELASG
NORTH AMERICA (ENA) FOR MOBILE LICENSE PLATE RECOGNITION
SERVICES BASED UPON THE UNIQUE CHARACTERISTICS OF THE SYSTEM
AND AUTHORIZATION PROVIDED BY THE MARYLAND GOVERNOR'S OFFICE
OF CRIME CONTROL AND PREVENTION AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY
MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT FOR THOSE SERVICES

WHEREAS, the Charter of the City of Bowie, Maryland (hereinafter, "the City") requires, in Section 61, that all expenditures for, *inter alia*, materials, construction of public improvements or contractual services involving more than ten thousand dollars be made by written contract upon sealed bids to the lowest responsive bid, except where the City Council by a two thirds vote waives the bidding requirements for good cause shown; and

WHEREAS, the City is in need of procuring Mobile License Plate Recognition Systems for the City's Police Department; and

WHEREAS, the City has received a grant from the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention for the procurement of Mobile License Plate Recognition Systems; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that the total price for the work in question will exceed ten thousand dollars; and

WHEREAS, the City Council deems the aforestated economic efficiencies to constitute good cause to waive the bidding requirements otherwise required by the Charter.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Bowie, Maryland, upon a two thirds vote, that the bidding requirements of Section 61 of the City Charter are hereby waived with respect to Mobile License Plate Recognition services, to allow the City to enter into a contract with ELSAG North America, for the procurement of hardware, software, and

other services, at a price of \$21,000.00 and the City Manager is authorized to enter into an agreement with that company for the services in substantially the form as that attached hereto as Exhibit A.

INTRODUCED AND PASSED by the Council of the City of Bowie, Maryland at a Meeting on January 4, 2009 by a vote of at least two-thirds of the members of the Council.

WITNESS:

THE CITY OF BOWIE, MARYLAND

Pamela A. Fleming
City Clerk

G. Frederick Robinson, Mayor

**APPROVED AS TO FORM AND
SUFFICIENTCY:**

Robert H. Levan, City Attorney