



## CITY OF GLENDALE, CALIFORNIA REPORT TO THE CITY COUNCIL

### AGENDA ITEM

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Report: Traffic-Related Electrical Devices Maintenance Program, Award Service Agreement

1. Resolution dispensing with competitive bidding, approving a contract award through a competitive request for proposal procurement process, and authorizing the City Manager or a designee to execute a multi-year service agreement, including the option for two one-year extensions, with Yunex Traffic LLC, to provide maintenance services for the City's traffic signals and other traffic-related electrical devices.

### COUNCIL ACTION

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Item Type: Action

Approved for October 31, 2023 calendar

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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A service agreement is needed to continue maintenance of the city's traffic signals and other traffic-related electrical devices.

Following a Request for Proposals (RFP) process, the service team of Yunex Traffic LLC is recommended to perform maintenance of traffic signals and other traffic-related electrical devices in the city. An RFP process was used instead of traditional competitive bidding process due to the undefinable nature of this maintenance and repair work, and the flexibility that is required for the vast span of equipment and devices requiring service and ongoing evolution of this technology. The proposed service agreement with Yunex Traffic LLC for a base contract period ending June 30, 2027, with the option for two one-year extensions will cost \$5,499,529.

## **COUNCIL PRIORITIES**

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Mobility, Traffic and Pedestrian Safety: Traffic-related electrical devices are crucial for safety and mobility in Glendale. Maintaining traffic signals is vital, as they regulate traffic, provide controlled crossings for pedestrians, reduce accidents, and improve safety for all roadway users.

Operational Efficiency: Well-maintained traffic signals and other traffic-related electrical devices ensure safe roadways and efficient operations of the city's transportation system.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

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Approve a resolution dispensing with competitive bidding, approving a contract award process through a request for proposal procurement process, and authorizing the execution of a multi-year service agreement with the option for two one-year extensions with Yunex Traffic LLC for the Traffic-Related Electrical Devices Maintenance Program in the amount of \$5,499,529.

## **BACKGROUND**

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The city currently operates 242 traffic signals, 9 signalized pedestrian crosswalks, 62 flashing beacons, an in-pavement lighted crosswalk, numerous radar speed feedback signs, and an extensive underground fiber optic communications network that links the traffic signal system for optimal coordination in a modern traffic environment.

Collectively, these devices have an estimated replacement cost surpassing \$150M, and are critical assets to the city. While designed and manufactured with durability in mind, traffic signals and electrical devices must be diligently maintained, and when needed, quickly repaired, in order to maintain public safety, reduce greenhouse gases, and improve mobility at intersections for all modes of travel, with an emphasis on bicyclists, pedestrians, transit, and emergency vehicles.

Activities for a traffic signal maintenance contractor can generally be divided into three basic categories: routine preventive maintenance, extraordinary maintenance, and operational and equipment modifications. Each are described below:

- Preventative maintenance activities are comprised of routine scheduled inspections and testing to ensure all equipment is in good working condition. Any equipment or component that is found unserviceable or operating below required standards is replaced in the process. Preventive maintenance activities reduce the incidence of malfunctions, outages, and complaints, as well as extend the useful life of the equipment.
- Extraordinary maintenance activities are comprised generally of non-recurring and unscheduled work. Examples of extraordinary maintenance include responding to reports of signal controller malfunctions, intersections on 4-way flash, burned-out lamps, and equipment knockdowns and malfunctions. This category also includes trouble-shooting traffic detection, monitoring and

communication systems, as well as investigating operational complaints. Marking the locations of underground traffic signal equipment when requested under Government Code Section 4216 ("dig-alert") is also an extraordinary maintenance activity.

- Lastly, a key function of any traffic signal maintenance contractor is to assist with implementing operational and equipment changes as traffic volumes, patterns, safety needs and conditions necessitate. Such activities would include, but not be limited to, modifying, or upgrading existing traffic signal equipment, installing new flashing beacon systems, adding protected left-turn phasing for traffic signals, implementing signal timing changes, providing technical support during signal construction, and bench-testing new equipment prior to field deployments.

In the past, the City of Glendale has opted to contract private companies for its traffic signal maintenance needs. This choice was driven by the staff's belief that outsourcing this maintenance is more cost-effective compared to maintaining a dedicated city crew, which would involve acquiring and upkeeping specialized vehicles, equipment, parts, and storage facilities.

The city's current traffic signal maintenance agreement is with Econolite Systems, which originally expired on September 30, 2023. The City extended this contract on a month-to-month basis until January 31, 2024. Econolite Systems has provided signal maintenance services to the city for the past 5 years, having been selected through a competitive RFP process in 2018.

Due to the largely undefinable nature of this work, as well as the highly technical and complicated extent of the work including electrical trades and software and hardware maintenance, as well as emerging technologies, the procurement for a service provider for the Traffic-Related Electrical Devices Maintenance Program does not readily lend itself to a competitive bidding process whereas a competitive Request for Proposal procurement process is better suited for obtaining a qualified service provider, as it allows for an evaluation of proposals based on important criteria that cannot be considered in a rigid low bid process, such as technical expertise and flexibility. For this reason, dispensing with competitive bidding to award a service agreement is recommended.

This agreement will cover numerous devices that require maintenance and repair in traffic signals, flashing beacons, speed radar systems and related electrical systems. A traffic Signal controller cabinet for example, contains many individual sensors, wires, relays and timer devices within the cabinet that require individual troubleshooting, repair or replacement to resolve electrical issues. Furthermore, as technology improves and newer devices are installed, the maintenance contractor must be able to maintain a variety of equipment including older traffic signals as well as newer technology. Thus,

the proposed service agreement is designed to provide flexibility to allow for maintenance activities of many different types of devices that vary for each location.

Maintenance of public works contracts that follow a formal competitive bidding process requires a specific scope of work, including specific labor tasks and materials. The maintenance services covered in the proposed service agreement allows for tasks that are unknown until failures or damages occur and do not have a specific timeline or list material until the problem is resolved. The RFP process allows city staff to evaluate the capacity of proposing firms to repair and maintain traffic signal equipment in Glendale and quickly respond to device outages. Due to the nature of traffic signal maintenance services, many other California cities have also opted to procure these services in 2023 from an RFP process such as Azusa, Morgan Hill and Arroyo Grande.

## **ANALYSIS**

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To ensure safe roadways and efficient operations of the city's transportation system, staff recommends using a professional maintenance and repair services firm.

An RFP was issued on June 26, 2023, for maintenance of traffic signals and other traffic-related electrical devices. To further ensure competitive proposals, the city shared the RFP with experienced electrical contractors, posted the solicitation on the city's website, and advertised in the Crescenta Valley Weekly.

On July 27, 2023, the city received three proposals for the Traffic-Related Electrical Devices Maintenance Program under RFP# 2023-006.

An evaluation team of staff from Public Works reviewed the proposals. The proposals were all ranked based on the following criteria: qualifications and experience, quality of submittal, understanding of scope and methodology, and cost/budget control. All the proposers for each project were then interviewed.

Based on the combination of written submittals and the results of the interviews, the Yunex Traffic LLC team was determined to be the top ranked firm for the Traffic-Related Electrical Devices Maintenance Program.

Yunex Traffic LLC has recent experience on a variety of Public Works maintenance programs of similar scope and cost. They currently maintain traffic signals, streetlights, fiber optic, and other related equipment for over 138 agencies encompassing over 4,000 signalized locations of assorted sizes from full function intersections to in-pavement flashing crosswalks and rapid flashing beacons. They have also successfully delivered similar projects for the cities of Anaheim, Garden Grove, and Newport Beach. Moreover, they recently completed the Citywide Battery Backup System (BBS) Project. City staff also checked Yunex Traffic LLC's references, which were all positive.

It is also worth noting that Yunex Traffic LLC earned the highest ranking due to its

exceptional quality service, a proposed robust maintenance program, a dedicated project team for Glendale, versatile capabilities, and the availability of additional resources that can be directed to our city. Furthermore, the firm possesses valuable expertise and in-house capabilities in troubleshooting communication systems. They also offer a sophisticated yet user-friendly asset management and activity tracking system. This system is a comprehensive database containing details about each signalized location (design, operational information, maintenance schedules, equipment inventory, history, etc.), the status of pending extraordinary maintenance activities, and tools to help city staff generate reports for monitoring budget and performance.

The below table shows the estimated costs of the traffic signal maintenance program for FY 2023-24 through FY 2026-27 for the base multi-year contract and FY 2027-28 through FY 2028-29 for the optional one-year contract extensions. The costs are broken into three components based on Yunex Traffic LLC's proposed fees.

1. Preventive maintenance: Costs are calculated based upon unit prices provided by Yunex Traffic LLC to maintain various device types. The respective unit prices are multiplied by the number of corresponding traffic devices that the city currently maintains. These costs can increase as additional devices are installed in the future.
2. Extraordinary maintenance: Costs are for repairing malfunctioned or damaged traffic equipment, responses to emergency knockdowns, markings for underground facilities, and miscellaneous services. These costs are estimated based on historical maintenance records and labor/equipment rates provided by Yunex Traffic LLC.
3. Installations and modifications: When requested by the city, Yunex Traffic LLC will perform traffic signal modifications and installations of new traffic-related electrical devices for small-scale projects such as, but not limited to, adding protected left-turn phasing for traffic signals and installing flashing beacons.

Contract Component	FY 23-24 (Five Months)	FY24-25	FY25-26	FY26-27	FY27-28 (Optional One-Year Extension)	FY28-29 (Optional One-Year Extension)	Total
Preventive Maintenance	\$145,510	\$359,701	\$370,492	\$381,606	\$393,055	\$404,846	\$2,055,210
Extraordinary Maintenance	\$176,080	\$435,270	\$448,328	\$461,778	\$475,631	\$489,900	\$2,486,987
Installation & Modifications	\$67,780	\$167,551	\$172,578	\$177,755	\$183,088	\$188,580	\$957,332

<b>Total Estimate</b>	<b>\$389,370</b>	<b>\$962,522</b>	<b>\$991,398</b>	<b>\$1,021,139</b>	<b>\$1,051,774</b>	<b>\$1,083,326</b>	<b>\$5,499,529</b>
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Grant funding is not associated with this signal maintenance agreement. There are no revenue offsets associated with this agenda item. In addition, there are no additional staffing or personnel costs associated with this item.

<b>Project Description:</b>	Traffic-Related Electrical Devices Maintenance Program
<b>RFP Approved:</b>	N/A
<b>Advertisement Method:</b>	Bid America, The Blue Book, Construction Bid Board, Construct Connect, Direct Connection, PlanIT Reprographics, Dodge Data & Analytics, eBidBoard, Glendale Independent Newspaper, City's website
<b>RFP Issued:</b>	June 26, 2023
<b>RFP Due Date:</b>	July 27, 2023
<b>Company Name (s):</b>	1. Yunex Traffic, LLC 2. Econolite Systems, Inc. 3. Crosstown Electrical & Data, Inc.
<b>Selection Criteria:</b>	Qualifications and experience, quality of submittal, understanding of scope and methodology, and cost/budget control
<b>Recommended Consultant</b>	Yunex Traffic LLC
<b>New / Existing Consultant:</b>	Existing
<b>Procurement Method:</b>	RFP
<b>Contract Term:</b>	3 years and 5 months; Option for two one-year extensions
<b>Contract Begins:</b>	Upon signing of contract
<b>Contract Ends:</b>	Upon the expiration date of the contract

## STAKEHOLDERS/OUTREACH

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Not Applicable.

## FISCAL IMPACT

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The service agreement with Yunex Traffic LLC for the Traffic-Related Electrical Devices Maintenance Program will cost \$5,499,529 for five years and five months term. The cost for these services for five months in FY 2023-24 is \$389,370 which was approved as a part of the FY 2023-24 budget. No new appropriation is being requested at this time. Staff anticipates a 3% annual increase in costs based on the assumption of a 3% annual increase in the Consumer Price Index of Los Angeles County, as published by the US Department of Labor. Future year costs will be budgeted as part of the annual budget process. The City Council approved funding is outlined below:

Existing Appropriation		
Amount	Account String	Funding Source
\$389,370	GL: 43110-1010-PWD-7516-P0000	General Fund

## ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW (CEQA/NEPA)

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The Project is categorically exempt from environmental review because of CEQA Guidelines §§ 15301.

## CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE

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The names and business addresses of the members of the board of directors, the chairperson, CEO, COO, CFO, Subcontractors and any person or entity with more than 10 percent interest in the company proposed for contract in this Agenda Item Report are attached in Exhibit 2, in accordance with the City Campaign Finance Ordinance No. 5744.

## ALTERNATIVES

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The alternatives related to the proposed Motion and Resolution are as follows:

- Alternative 1: Approve the resolution dispensing with competitive bidding and authorizing a service agreement with Yunex Traffic LLC for the Traffic-Related Electrical Devices Maintenance Program for \$5,499,529 for five years and 5 months.
- Alternative 2: Do not approve the motion to authorize a service agreement with Yunex Traffic LLC for the Traffic-Related Electrical Devices Maintenance Program. The current traffic signal maintenance contract will expire on January 31, 2024, and the city will not be able to ensure safe roadways and efficient operations of the city's transportation system.

Alternative 3: The City Council may consider any other alternative not proposed by staff.

### **ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION**

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**Prepared by:**

Pastor Casanova, T.E., Principal Traffic Engineer  
Saed Roudsari, P.E., Traffic Engineer II

**Approved by:**

Roubik R. Golanian, P.E., City Manager

### **EXHIBITS/ATTACHMENTS**

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Exhibit 1: Project Location Map

Exhibit 2: Campaign Disclosure Forms