



**Connecticut Department of Transportation
RFP #20CTRAIL-1
“Design & Manufacture of Rail Cars
And Related Services”**

Minutes of Meeting
2:00 p.m., June 12, 2020

The Connecticut Department of Transportation, Office of Rail, conducted an online meeting on June 12, 2020 on its recently issued Request for Proposal (RFP) #20CTRAIL-1 for the “Design and Manufacture of Rail Cars and Related Services” for its passenger rail lines in CT. The meeting was conducted as a video conference call using the Webex system to discuss non-technical requirements of the RFP with prospective bidders.

The meeting consisted of an overview of the project by CTDOT staff for the bidders, followed by a question and answer segment. At 2:00 p.m., Ms. Marci Petterson of CTDOT-Rail began the meeting, welcomed the attendees and gave a short introduction on the purpose of the meeting. She then introduced Mr. Richard Andreski of CTDOT-RAIL who gave the attendees some background on the need for the new fleet of railcars and what the purchase will mean to the riders. He mentioned that CT’s passenger rail system, made up of Shore Line East (SLE), the Hartford Line (HL) and the New Haven Line and its branches, depend on modern, efficient railcars for the riding public. The SLE and the HL railcars, in particular, are lacking in many categories as they are an aging fleet of secondhand passenger coaches that in some cases are 35 years old and lack many of the modern features that customers expect in 2020. These include better on-board communication systems, better signage, LED lighting, more comfortable seating and reliable air conditioning and heating systems. Mr. Andreski also alerted the attendees to the fact that some updates to the existing RFP will be issued soon to take into account the health and safety requirements of the new cars in accordance with state and/or CDC guidelines for COVID-19 prevention. He also gave the attendees some very positive news on the state’s funding effort for the new fleet of cars. In a departure from the normal process in which the RFP solicitation is concluded before the funding is in place, thanks to the efforts of Governor Lamont and his focus on improving public transportation in the state, the funding for this procurement is already available thanks to a grant from the CT Bond Commission.

At 2:15 p.m. Ms. Petterson went through a review of the RFP's early pages dealing with the proposal process including the sections titled, Overview, Number of Cars, the Proposal Process, Proposal Evaluation, RFP Schedule and the Car Delivery Schedule. She discussed the basic requirement of 41 trailer cars, 19 cab control cars, four options of other combinations of trailer and cab cars and a fifth option for the possible add-on contract for post warranty service and support for up to 20 years.

In the area of Proposal Evaluation, she made a point that the state's selection of the successful bidder will depend not just on price but on overall Best Value. She reiterated that at present the timeline of the proposal process remains as detailed in the current RFP. The key milestones in this process include:

- 1 - the acceptance of questions from bidders on July 10th and August 28th
- 2 - answers provided on August 7th and September 18th, respectively
- 3 - proposals due by 3:00 p.m. EDT on October 16th
- 4 - Proposals will be judged using a point system
- 5 - Notice to Proceed on or about January 15, 2021

At 2:20 p.m., Ms. Petterson opened the meeting for questions from the prospective bidders. There were four questions:

1

"Will questions only be accepted on the listed dates of July 10th & August 28th?"

Answer: YES

2

"Are only two forms required to be submitted with the proposal, namely the ethics form and the OPM Form 7?"

Answer: YES

3

"Will you bring in firms for meetings after the proposals are all reviewed for further clarifications, etc.?"

Answer: NOT AT PRESENT

4

"Are there acceptance criteria for the 4 car options and the post warranty service option?"

*Answer: **PENDING***

With no further questions being asked, at 2:27 p.m. Ms. Petterson thanked all participants for attending the meeting and brought it to a close.

*Prepared by R. W. Walker
Garg Engineering
June 15, 2020*

CTDOT Webex Conference Call

Project # 20CTRAIL-1

2:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m., June 12, 2020

Attendee Name	Agency or Firm
Richard Andreski	CTDOT
Marci Petterson	CTDOT
Richard Jankovich	CTDOT
Calvin Ortique	CTDOT
Helen Bartek	CTDOT
Ruby Siegel	AECOM
Carol Rose	STV
Jim Boice	STV
Bob Walker	Garg Consulting
Jing Jing	CRRC MA Corporation
Ka Cheong Jim	CRRC MA Corporation
Nathan Zhang	CRRC Qingdao Sifang Co., Ltd.
Tony Liu	CRRC Qingdao Sifang Co., Ltd.
William Wu	CRRC Qingdao Sifang Co., Ltd.
Graciela Alcantar	CRRC Sifang America, Inc.
Kevin Qu	CRRC Sifang America, Inc.
Carsten Nebe	Siemens
Jean Picard	Siemens
Kim Swain	Siemens
Steven Morrison	Siemens
Chris Cudmore	Stadler
Matt Sibul	Stadler
Joshua Coran	TALGO, Inc.
Juan P. Barahona	TALGO, Inc.
Julia Camacho	TALGO, Inc.
Mike Pracht	TALGO, Inc.
William Saddler	Wabtec Transit Group

*prepared by Bob Walker
Garg Consulting
June 15, 2020*