



## City Council Staff Report

**From: City Manager**

**Report Type: CONSENT CALENDAR**

**Lead Department: Office of Emergency Services**

**Meeting Date: August 7, 2023**

Report #:2305-1415

### **TITLE**

Approval and Authorization of the City Manager to Execute a Contract with Allied Universal Technology Services (AUTS) (C24187696) in an Amount Not-to-Exceed \$778,275 over 5 years and one month period ending June 30, 2028 to provide Intrusion Detection System (IDS) monitoring and notification services. CEQA status - not a project.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends that Council approve and authorize the City Manager or their designee to execute a contract with Allied Universal Technology Services (AUTS) in an Amount Not-to-Exceed \$778,275 for the period June 2, 2023 – June 30, 2028, to provide IDS monitoring and notification services.

### **BACKGROUND**

In June 2018 the City of Palo Alto contracted with G4S (Contract number C18172456) to provide remote video monitoring of the four at-grade rail crossings in the City limits and to make notifications to public safety agencies when established criteria were observed. The current contract period ended on June 1, 2023.

### **ANALYSIS**

The IDS became operational in September 2018 and has been in use since that time to monitor the four Caltrain at-grade crossings. This followed more than three years of monitoring efforts initially by volunteers then staffed by contracted staffing at roughly \$xxx annually, which proved problematic for multiple reasons.

The four Caltrain rail crossings include Palo Alto Avenue, Churchill Avenue, W. Meadow Drive, and W. Charleston Road. Each crossing has six cameras with a combination of fixed, thermal and PTZ (pan, tilt, zoom) with the capability of viewing objects up to 1,000 feet in both north and south directions in variable light and weather conditions, and covers the area of the crossing and intersection with Alma Street. City fiber provides the backhaul of video imagery to a server system in the Palo Alto City Hall that is also used by the vendor at a remote monitoring center. A notification protocol is followed by the monitoring center operator to make

appropriate notifications to local public safety agencies when specific criteria are met (unsafe conditions).

The City of Palo Alto City Council approved the IDS system in June 2017 when they authorized the design and construction of the CalTrain Corridor Video Management System Installation capital project (PE-18001). (CMR Staff Report #8065)<sup>1</sup>.

In December 2019, G4S rebranded post-merger under the name Allied Universal Technology Services.

Starting in fiscal year 2021 OES began reporting on the number of annual reported incidents within the Caltrain right of way. Data was recorded starting in FY 2020, the table below is an output of published metrics in FY2020-2022. This measure provides the number of incidents reported to by the third party under contract.

	<b>FY 2020</b>	<b>FY2021</b>	<b>FY2022</b>	<b>FY23</b>
<b>Annual Incidents</b>	110	57	68	25

The contractor is responsible for 24/7/365 monitoring and notifications. In the event of the system detecting an intrusion or other unsafe condition (such as a car stalled on the tracks), the contractor notifies the responsible public safety agency (San Mateo County Sheriff) to take immediate action, such as stopping trains. The contractor also notifies the City of Palo Alto 911 Communications Center who dispatches City of Palo Alto resources to respond. The contractor may also activate on-site audio warnings if applicable. City of Palo Alto staff review incident reports for any actionable recommendations. Allied Universal Technology Services has properly performed the required services in the current term.

#### Bid Process

On 10 April, 2023, the City issued a notice inviting formal bids under RFP 187696, Intrusion Detection System (IDS) Monitoring & Notifications. A Pre-proposal Teleconference was conducted with three providers in attendance: Allied Universal Technology Services, Siemens Industries, and Garcia's Private Security. Allied Universal Technology Services provided the only bid to the City for this RFP. The City evaluated the proposal for completeness and alignment with the services requested, based on the responsive proposal, performance, and experience, the City recommends award of a contract with Allied Universal Technology Services.

Subsequent to the bid process, OES staff reached out to potential bidders that did not submit proposals to inquire as to why they decided not to participate. No responses were received.

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<sup>1</sup> City of Palo Alto Staff Report #8065 at <https://www.cityofpaloalto.org/files/assets/public/agendas-minutes-reports/reports/city-manager-reports-cmrs/year-archive/2017/id-8065-caltrain.pdf>

**Intrusion Detection System (IDS) monitoring and notification services.**

<i>Proposed Length of Project</i>	5 years
<i>Number of Bids Mailed to Contractors</i>	6
<i>Number of Websites</i>	1 (City's eprocurement portal, PlanetBids)
<i>Total Days to Respond to Bid</i>	21
<i>Optional Pre-Bid Meeting</i>	May 20, 2021 at 9:30 A.M.
<i># of Company Attendees at Pre-Bid Meeting</i>	3
<i>Number of Bids Received:</i>	1
<i>Bid Price Range</i>	\$778,275

The five-year cost in this agreement (61 months) is for \$778,275. The previous 5-year contract (60 months) was awarded to G4S at a cost of \$600,000 which did not include any annual increase in contract cost during the term. This agreement differs as costs increase each year as detailed in Exhibit C of the contract, and it includes an additional month of services to align with the City's fiscal year. This cost escalation is in line with standard inflation expectations.

**FISCAL/RESOURCE IMPACT**

The total five-year and one month cost of the contract is \$778,275. The first-year amount of \$144,040 is anticipated to be available in the OES operating budget in Fiscal Year 2024 pending the City Council adoption of the FY 2024 Operating budget, scheduled for June 19, 2023. Future year funding is subject to Council approval as part of the annual budget process.

**STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT**

No stakeholder engagement was conducted for this contracting action. OES involved members of the Police and Utilities departments in the RFP evaluation.

**ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW**

The recommendation in this report does not constitute a project requiring review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) since there is no potential for a direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment. Council's prior approval of the IDS system was determined exempt from CEQA review under Class 1 of the CEQA guidelines as repair, maintenance, and/or minor alteration of existing facilities.

**ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment A: Allied Universal Technology Services Contract C24187696

**APPROVED BY:**

Ken Dueker, Director Office of Emergency Services