CITY OF GREENVILLE, OHIO

TRANSIT PROVIDER PRE-BID MEETING

July 25, 2019 - 10:00 A.M.

Present:  Pam Garland, Greenville Public Transportation Director
          Janelle Cross, Clerk for Greenville Board of Control (Bids)
          Josh Allmayer, Via Transportation
          Chris Kenworthy, MV Transportation
          Mac Roncone, MV Transportation

Pam Garland brought the meeting to order.

Greenville Transit has been in existence since 1994. The service included Darke County but now serves Greenville City residents, and then Darke County residents if resources and time allow. Current fees are $1.00 per mile for County riders; $1.50 per ride for in-corp elderly or handicapped or $3.00 per ride for others in town.

Greenville Transit has operated out of the current building since 2006.

They have had as many as 17 transit vehicles but are down to 10 or 11 now. They support local business with automobile service.

The building is larger than needed right now. The vendor will lease their building space for $1.00 per year; $1.00 per year for each van; and $1.00 per year for radio use. The City Public Transportation Director shares space in the building.

The vendor will supply the manager’s computer and drivers’ uniforms.

Garland has requested additional funds from the State of Ohio to cover higher wages for the drivers. She would like to see the wages equal to beginning factory work at $11 per hour.

Josh asked if the City would entertain the idea of a company using its own software, on the vendor’s own license, or if the State requires the use of Ecolane. He will put the request into writing so Garland can send the question to ODOT.

Meeting attendance was not mandatory.

Questions previously submitted and answers were read. (Sheet attached.)

Attendees toured the building. This is a shared building. The contractor uses it along with the Greenville Public Transportation Director and a building maintenance man. Conference room, kitchen, storage rooms, vehicle bays, wash bay, computer room, break room, offices, and dispatch office were included in the tour. There is a Zamboni for floor cleaning. Transit vehicles have non-profit ads on each vehicle for easier identification. They are phasing out CDL required driver vehicles. The State now
keeps the bus titles. One perk for employees is that they can park inside. The City has their own IT personnel who takes care of the computers. The driver's break room has mailboxes and schedules.

The City is 7 square miles. Drivers have tablets that dispatch sends pick-up order directly to them.

The copier in the offices is provided by the City and can be used by the contractor.

The majority of rides are within the City. State goal is 2.8 rides per hour; City averages 4.8 per hour.

County rides are provided Monday thru Friday 8:00 – 4:00, as time permits.

Shuttle services is provided for $1 per ride during the County Fair.

Scheduling rides is currently by phone through dispatch. Use of an App could be explored in the future.

Jobs & Family Services uses Transit and an ambulette.

Rides average 20 minute wait, but can be anywhere between 5 minutes and an hour.

Currently there are very few reservations or 24 hour notices.

Last contract was based on 14,250 revenue hours. Use what is specified in the spec book. Revenue hours run from first pick-up to last drop-off.

Pam has asked the State for additional money. The Governor is in favor of more funding.

Last year there were more than 51,000 riders.

Would the City entertain a central call center instead of an on-site dispatcher? The City would look at such a proposal, but has never operated that way.

If dispatch has many calls, other office staff help when needed. Work together as a partnership.

Meeting closed.
Questions received 7/16/19 thru board of control

Q: Is the City able to make public its budget available for the transit service?
A: The third party operating budget for 2019 is $547,118.00. The budget for 2020 will be determined by the 2020 grant allocations which are not yet available from the state. Grant submissions are due mid-August. We are requesting additional funds to get drivers/dispatchers wages up to area comparisons and to expand our county service slightly.

Q: Is the City willing to consider technology vendors other than Ecolane, if the new technology is shown to reduce the cost per ride, or overall cost of operations?
A: The State mandated the current Ecolane software and paid for a three year maintenance/support. Ecolane was implemented in August 2018, leaving two more years of our contract.

Q: Is the City generally interested in conceiving of new or innovative ways to offer the services, especially if the new model is shown to reduce the cost per ride, the cost of operations, and/or the quality of service?
A: The City is open to ideas that will save money and still provide quality service. Any major service changes would have to be approved by our TAC, our City Council and of course ODOT by following our service change policy. For comparing apples to apples, it is recommended to follow the proposal as released. Additional information can be included if you wish.

Q: If a vendor uses their own dynamic routing software as part of their solution and does not require the city to purchase a software license, will the City allow this as an alternative to using Ecolane?
A: After checking with ODOT, it was advised that any software would have to meet ODOT set standards and the funds spent on our current software (Ecolane) would have to be paid back by the city as it has not met its useful life. The City is not in the position to do this; therefore the answer would be no.
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