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Unanimous vote may lead to bus stop enhancements

HOUSTON – The METRO Board of Directors voted unanimously last morning to allow the president and the CEO to negotiate pricey three year contracts that will enhance bus stops and shelters as well as introduce land surveying services and geographic information systems.

The contracts will be with Cobb Fendley and Associates, Huitt-Zollars and Landtech. If the contract comes into fruition, many land surveying services will be utilized, which may include systems that will implement accessibility bus stop and shelter enhancement.

“These services are indefinite delivery, indefinite quantity type services,” Frank Andrews, manager of engineering support said.

Some of the possible types are route surveying, construction surveying, topographic surveying, boundary surveying and investigative surveying services. The bus stop and shelter enhancement would be a result of the topographic and boundary surveying services. The topographic and boundary surveying services might also include projects such as property acquisition and disposals and construction quality control.

The contract is estimated to be priced at \$1.6 million a year.

“There is no guarantee on [this]. It’s as work is delivered to them,” Andrews said, when asked about the price. The money will be split amongst the three mentioned companies.

“[The] small business bulk of this has been set at 35 percent,” Andrews said. “Each of the firms have at least 40 percent with Landtech at 95% because they are also

a small business.” The proposal that was presented by Andrews flew past the Capital and Strategic Planning Committee and ended up in front of the board of directors.

In front of the board, Troi Taylor, the secretary, asked them to allow the “president and CEO to negotiate, execute, and delivery a requirements contract” to the three companies, to which he found no objections. Because of the abstract idea of the contract, nothing is set in stone yet. However, people that take the METRO should keep an eye out for any new changes to their bus stops and shelters.

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