



CHIEF PROCUREMENT OFFICE
Bill Grunloh, Department of Transportation - Highway Construction

July 18, 2022

Chris Welch
Speaker of the Illinois House of Representatives
300 Capitol Building
Springfield, Illinois 62706

Re: Report of Sole Source Procurement Method

Dear Mr. Welch:

As required by P.A. 96-0795, the Chief Procurement Office for the Department of Transportation (IDOT), Highway Construction is providing information regarding the Sole Source Procurement Method.

During Fiscal Year 2022, IDOT Highway Construction executed two (2) contracts through the sole source procurement method. Below are the sole source procurements along with the justification given for seeking the sole source procurement method.

Sidewalk Labs Replica (2021-08)

IDOT continuously works to collect data from various reputable sources and explore new methods to better understand the travel patterns of the state and region. These data are major inputs into transit agency, municipal, MPO, and IDOT planning and investiture decisions. The data necessary for these analyses and decisions includes survey data on travel behavior related to how people move in and about a city, region, or state. Typically, this data is collected through surveys of individuals. This data is usually a very small percentage of the population, and the travel demand model extrapolates how this sampling of individuals would behave if different transportation investments are made.

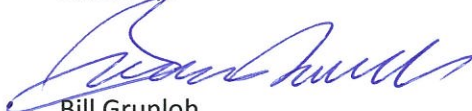
With Replica's proprietary product and service, the data is gathered from dozens of de-identified and anonymized data sources, including mobile carrier data, location data from third party aggregators, and household characteristic data and therefore provides a much greater statistically significant population from which to run alternative scenarios for where traffic would go if a new bridge or road were constructed. Additionally, IDOT is seeking granular detail and high-quality data to make generational policy and investment decisions, like major transportation investments, or substantial changes to land use policy, and to have the near-real time data required to monitor behavior changes and measure the impact of on-going operational and policy decisions in a rapidly changing world. This procurement is exceptionally important now with the changes due to COVID-19. The contract term is one year with a start date of October 12, 2021. The contract award shall not exceed \$2,520,000.

Locomotive Shunt Testing (2021-07)

The location or presence of a train is detected by shorting (also called "shunting") of low-voltage track circuits. The shunt is created when the electrical path between one rail and the other is bridged by one or more wheel sets of passing train. This happens at both wayside signals and those at a grade crossing. Preliminary data has shown that because of the light weight and the smaller number of cars in a train, passenger rail does not reliably shunt the circuit needed to deploy the crossing gates or signals. Problems with the reliable grade crossing signal shunting have become more apparent on implementation of Positive Train Control ("PTC") on rail lines throughout the U.U. The Track Circuit Assister (TCA) is the only identified product (as noted by research from Canadian National and the Federal Railroad Administration) that has been demonstrated to enhance shunting of grade crossing signals in applications to Diesel Multiple-Unit cars operating in Australia, Ireland, and the United Kingdom. The need to enhance grade crossing signal shunting is a public safety issue that has the potential to affect passenger rail operations throughout the United States. The TCA will provide a proven method to test on the Charger locomotive. If the TCA testing proves effective, IDOT will then move forward with additional testing of a custom fitted shunting enhancer for further testing and evaluation. IDOT has taken an active and leading role in addressing this concern and the planned procurement/shunt enhancing test program will put IDOT and the ICC at the forefront of working to resolve this issue. The contract term is 52 weeks after date of execution. Execution date is September 21, 2021. The contract award amount shall not exceed \$73,916.00.

If you have any questions or need further information regarding this or any other matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Bill Grunloh

Chief Procurement Officer