



Agenda Action Form Overview

The Board is requested to authorize the County Manager to enter into a service contract in the amount of \$136,875 with Buddi US, LLC effective September 1, 2019 to provide Electronic Monitoring Services for individuals assigned to Durham Pretrial Services. The funding for this contract has been approved in the Criminal Justice Resource Center's FY19/20 budget.

Background/Justification

Durham County Government established a Pretrial Services Program in 2006. The overall goal of Durham County's Pretrial Services is to create a systematic approach for recommending release and community supervision for defendants who do not pose a risk to the community as they await trial. The program strives to provide complete and accurate information to judges, improve the release and detention decision, actively supervise defendants released pre-trial, ensure that agency-mandated conditions and court-ordered requirements are satisfied, and to maintain the integrity of the judicial process while promoting public safety.

One essential component of the program is an electronic monitoring module for court identified criminal defendants who are on release from the Durham County Detention Facility as an alternative to detention. Offenders are assigned to electronic monitoring by a judge or by delegated authority of a magistrate or clerk of court and may also be required to attend programs in the community. The utilization of electronic monitoring devices has steadily increased over the past two years. In FY19, the lowest number of units in use was 45 units and the highest was 71 units, with a twelve-month average use of 62 devices.

Durham County Purchasing Division issued a Request for Proposals for Electronic Monitoring Services (RFP 19-023) in February 2019. After a comprehensive review process, the Selection Committee recommended Buddi US, LLC as the preferred vendor. The monitoring device is less obtrusive, waterproof, has a durable and temper resistant strap, can be charged remotely, and has a longer battery life. Additionally, the recommended vendor provided the lowest bid of all proposers. This agreement will reduce the daily unit cost from \$10.55 to \$6.00 per day and increase the program's capacity from 40 to 80 devices. More information about Buddi US, LLC can be found at www.buddi.us.

Policy Impact

The agenda item is consistent with the Board of County Commissioners support for the Criminal Justice Resource Center's Pretrial Services program and Goal 3 of the Strategic Plan. The electronic monitoring component provides an increased emphasis on community safety and contributes to a reduction in detention costs to the County for defendants who may be awaiting case disposition for an extended period of time.

Procurement Background

Type of purchase

- Goods
- Services
- Architect, Engineer or Surveyor Services



- Construction and Repair

Did this request for purchase go through a bid process? Yes No

Goods: Bids required if $\geq \$30,000$, BOCC approval if $\geq \$90,000$

Services: Bids required if $\geq \$30,000$, BOCC approval if $> \$40,000$

Construction/Repair work: Bids required if $\geq \$30,000$, BOCC approval if $\geq \$500,000$

If yes, attach a copy of bid tab and the minority and women business enterprise (MWBE) compliance review form provided by the Purchasing Division.

If no, why?

- Sole source exemption
- Cooperative purchasing program exemption
- State and federal contract exemption
- Contract is an amendment to an existing contract
- Other (please explain)

If exempted from bidding, has this request been reviewed and approved by the Purchasing Division in the agenda Legistar system? Yes No

If no, why?

Fiscal Impact

Similar contracts for electronic monitoring services have been included in the Criminal Justice Resource Center's budget for Pretrial Services since 2006. For the past few years the demand for electronic monitoring units has steadily increased due to court ordered releases as electronic monitoring has proven to be a key element of supervision. This contract will provide units with advanced technology at a lower unit cost to the program.

Recommendation

The County Manager recommends that the Board of County Commissioners authorize the County Manager to enter into a service contract in the amount of \$136,875 with Buddi US, LLC effective September 1, 2019 to provide Electronic Monitoring Services for individuals assigned to Durham Pretrial Services.



Durham County Government
Agenda Action Form Supplemental Document – Contract Approval
