

Board Action/Information Summary

<input checked="" type="radio"/> Action <input type="radio"/> Information	MEAD Number: 100313	Resolution: <input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No
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TITLE:

Backhoe, Flat Car Modification & Flagging Booths

PURPOSE:

This action is to request Board approval to initiate and award three individual competitive contracts. One contract is to purchase a Backhoe, a second contract to purchase Flatcar Flagging Booths, and a third contract to modify the height of three flat cars.

DESCRIPTION:

Backhoe

The Office of Track and Structures/Systems Maintenance (TSSM) has a requirement to replace complete ballasted yard turnouts in the following five maintenance yards: Brentwood, Shady Grove, New Carrollton, West Falls Church and Alexandria. To facilitate this maintenance requirement in the most effective manner and cost, it is necessary to purchase a hi-rail backhoe with specialized attachments. Equipment with these capabilities to assist in the removal and installation of turnouts are not available at Metro.

Flatcar Flagging Booths

The Office of Track and Structures (TRST), requests to purchase 25 Flatcar Flagman`s Booths. The Track Department has 25 flatcars in which the flagman`s booths are old and reaching their useful life expectancy. A Flatcar is a rail bound piece of track equipment with a flat bed and flagman`s booth that allows track personnel to load and mobilize track parts and equipment to various locations within the rail system in order to perform track maintenance.

A flagging booth is a small enclosed compartment that sits on top of a flat car on the end farthest from the Locomotive/Prime Mover. The booth houses the flagman and the necessary equipment (i.e. dump valve and lights) to safely operate flat cars when being pushed or pulled by our Locomotive/Prime Movers, more commonly known as work trains. The flagmen housed in these booths are required at all times when operating flatcars on the mainline. In most cases, the operator of the Locomotive/Prime movers has obstructed views of the right-of-way when flat cars are loaded with track material. It is the flagman`s responsibility to signal the operator to stop or proceed at all signals and yards. Flagmen are emergency responders when it is necessary to stop the work train in the event of an emergency. The booth/cab protects the flagman from the outside elements and provides a stable, safe working environment allowing the flagman to perform his duties.

Flatcar Modification

TSSM has a requirement for the modification of three flat cars in the current Metro fleet. The flat car modifications are required to accommodate new equipment being procured to support the modernization of the right-of-way grout pad and tunnel/station rehabilitation projects. The modifications will allow the TSSM, Structures Maintenance division to transport a mobile batch plant, man-lifts and other high lift equipment in the system.

FUNDING IMPACT:

Program: Capital Improvement Program - FY2009
Project: Loco and Prime Mover
Budget: \$4,756,100
This Action: \$740,000
Prior Approval: \$3,968,047
Remaining Budget: \$48,053
Remarks: Cost Breakdown - Backhoe - \$170,000; Flagging Booths - \$300,000; Flatcar Modifications - \$270,000
Operating Budget Impact: No Impact on the Operations budget.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approval to initiate and award three contracts to purchase a Backhoe and Flagging Booths (25), and to modify the deck height of three Metro-owned flat cars at an estimated total amount of \$740,000.