Administrative Item #1 05-28-09

Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority Board Action/Information Summary

	MEAD Number: 100206	Resolution:
	100206	○Yes ●No

TITLE:

Carousel Conversion to AC Power

PURPOSE:

To request Board approval to initiate and award a competitive contract to furnish the necessary labor and material to convert the horizontal carousel system in Storeroom 400 from DC to AC power.

DESCRIPTION:

The horizontal carousel system in Storeroom 400 is a critically-important material retrieval system that consists of 12 rows of revolving carousels containing approximately 20,000 line items, about 1/3 of the total line items carried in inventory. The proper functioning of the horizontal carousel system is vital to supporting the material requirements of operational departments throughout Metro. Failure of the carousel system negatively impacts material availability and operational readiness.

The carousel system was installed over 20 years ago. The motors and controls that run the revolving carousels operate on DC power. Approximately 10 years ago the manufacturer of the carousel system switched over to AC motors and controls. Consequently, it has become increasingly difficult to maintain the motors and controls and keep the revolving carousels running. The manufacturer no longer supports the DC equipment; and replacement parts are often not available and very difficult to obtain. A contract with a vendor to maintain the carousel system exists but frequent trouble calls and lack of replacement parts for the motors and controls adversely affect efficiency and customer support.

In order to maintain a viable carousel system, the DC motors, controls, and associated electrical components need to be replaced with AC equipment. The new updated AC motors and controls will significantly improve reliability of the carousel system. Manufacturer support and the ready availability of replacement parts will reduce system downtimes. Productivity in the warehouse and customer support will be greatly enhanced.

FUNDING IMPACT:

Budget: Operating Budget, Fiscal 2009

Office: PRMT Administration

Account: Services - Computer Service Consultants

This Action: \$275,000

Remarks: Needed to convert the carousels in Storeroom 400 from DC to AC power.

FY2009

Budget: **\$882,000**

This Action: **\$275,000**

Prior Approval: \$77,300

Remaining Budget: \$529,700

RECOMMENDATION:

Approval to initiate and award a competitive contract to furnish the necessary labor and material to convert the horizontal carousel system at Storeroom 400 from DC to AC power.