

**Washington Metropolitan Area Transportation Authority  
Board Action/Information Summary**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action <input type="checkbox"/> Information	MEAD Number: 99877	Resolution: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
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**PURPOSE**

To obtain Board approval to modify contract FN3030 with Argonne National Laboratory to provide technical oversight and support of the PROTECT chemical agent detection and response system from October 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008 for a not-to-exceed amount of \$277,500. The current contract, valued at \$4.3 million, may not be modified without Board approval.

**DESCRIPTION**

"PROTECT is an automated hardware/software system that integrates chemical detectors, closed-circuit TV, dispersion modeling, and optimal response protocols to improve detection and reaction to complex terrorist attacks involving chemical agents. The system provides accurate, early detection and verification in confined spaces... Alarm and response management capabilities assist [Operations Control Center personnel] and first responders by pinpointing release areas and projected dispersion zones, recommending appropriate, predetermined response scenarios." *From PROTECT Profile by Argonne National Laboratory.*

Argonne National Laboratory, principal designer and engineer of PROTECT, has a Blanket Purchase Contract (FN3030) with the Authority until November 30, 2008. A blanket purchase contract is based on issuances of separately-funded task orders. The last remaining PROTECT task order expires on September 30, 2007. The purpose of this action is to obtain Board approval for the Authority to issue a new task order to Argonne National Laboratory to provide technical oversight on the PROTECT system's performance, especially the performance of detectors, and technical support for PROTECT command and control system software from October 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008.

The Offices of Infrastructure Renewal Program, Information Technology, the Metro Transit Police Department and Track and Structures/Systems Maintenance conferred with Argonne National Laboratory to learn what technical oversight and support is necessary to maintain and improve PROTECT during the system's operational phase in FY08. The offices evaluated the Authority's ability to assume Argonne National Laboratory's functions during FY08, and concluded that the Authority cannot assume

Argonne National Laboratory's responsibilities at this time. Also, the offices realize that chemical detector technology is advancing, and the detector marketplace will offer detectors with better sensitivity and reliability than the current crop. Only experienced scientists and technicians, such as those at Argonne National Laboratory, will be able to help the Authority decide if/when it is time to replace detectors. And, it will take an independent testing laboratory to verify that each new detector meets service standards. For those reasons, and because Argonne National Laboratory has proven ability to implement a practical and reliable chemical agent detection and response system, the Offices of Information Technology, the Metro Transit Police Department and Track and Structures/Systems Maintenance recommend that the Authority issue a new task order to Argonne National Laboratory to acquire PROTECT support during the remainder of FY08.

There is no prudent alternative to tasking technical oversight and support for PROTECT to Argonne National Laboratory for the remainder of FY08. The Authority is in the process of acquiring knowledge, skill sets and staffing so we can support PROTECT internally.

**FUNDING IMPACT**

The proposed \$277,500 task order to Argonne National Laboratory will be funded by FY08 Operating Funds earmarked for Argonne National Laboratory in the FY08 Services budgets of the Offices of Information Technology and Metro Transit Police Department.

Budget: Operating Budget, Fiscal 2008  
 Metro Transit Police Department and Office of Information  
 Offices: Technology  
 Account: Professional and Technical Service - Other Consultant

	FY08		FY08
	MTPD	OIT	Total
Budget:	\$ 214,000	\$ 156,000	\$ 370,000
This Action:	160,500	117,000	277,500
Prior Approval:	-	-	-
Remaining Budget:	\$ 53,500	\$ 39,000	\$ 92,500

Remarks: This item is budgeted in Fiscal 2008 under Professional and Technical Services-Other Consultant for this purpose.

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the Board of Directors authorizes the Authority to modify contract FN3030 with Argonne National Laboratory to provide technical oversight and support services for the PROTECT system from October 1, 2007 until June 30, 2008, for the not-to-exceed amount of \$277,500, with funding provided by the FY08 Operating Budget.