



Finance, Administration and Oversight Committee

Information Item 3-K

June 12, 2008

**Approval to Initiate & Award Contracts for
On-Call Technical Consultant Services for
Collective Bargaining/Interest Arbitration**

Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority
Board Action/Information Summary

<input checked="" type="radio"/> Action <input type="radio"/> Information	MEAD Number: 99947	Resolution: <input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No
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TITLE:

On-Call Technical Services

PURPOSE:

To request Board approval to initiate and award multiple contracts for a 24-month base period consisting of FY09 and FY10 by utilizing Basic Ordering Agreements (BOAs) for on-call technical consultant services in labor negotiations and expert witness services for ongoing collective bargaining and any possible interest arbitration contingencies in FY09 and FY10.

DESCRIPTION:

The Authority requires certain additional technical consultant and expert witness services in connection with reviewing, analyzing and representing WMATA's strategic interests in the 2008 round of collective bargaining and if necessary interest arbitration for a base period consisting of FY09 and FY10.

During FY09 and FY10, these on-call technical consultant services contracts will be necessary in assisting management with contract negotiations with WMATA's labor unions and preparing the supporting arguments, testimony and exhibit presentations for any contingent interest arbitration. Historically, the Authority has initiated and awarded both individual contracts for each professional service as needed to support these areas as well as the BOA process during the past several years. The BOA process is superior to the individual process because it avoids the very time consuming, counter-productive, and short time constraints necessary in responding to various issues presented during collective bargaining and preparation for interest arbitration. Therefore, on-call technical consultation/expert witness service contracts for labor negotiations and interest arbitration hearing preparations and presentations will be pursued for diverse topics such as: professional job

matching analyses of WMATA jobs with comparable ones found in the local Washington, D.C. labor market and comparison of respective wage levels; professional labor economic analyses of Union wage premium trends and their applicability to WMATA circumstances; specialized labor economic developments within the transit industry; professional financial analyses and testimony bearing on the Wolf Act comparability standards; specialized interest arbitration advocacy support; professional level development of statistics and testimony regarding WMATA Quit Rates, Queue Rates, New Hire Premium; professional level analyses and testimony concerning comparability of health care and fringe benefit program; and professional specialized pension benefit comparability analysis and evidence development.

It is the intent of the Authority to initiate and award new contracts using WMATA`s competitive procurement process.

FUNDING IMPACT:

Budget: Operating Budget, Fiscal 2009
 Office: Employee and Labor Relations - 56100
 Account: Professional and Technical Service - Other Consultant/Expert Witness
 This Action: \$1,033,000
 Remarks: This item is budgeted in Fiscal 2009 under Professional and Technical Services-Other Consultant for this purpose.

	FY 2009
Budget:	\$1,033,000
This Action:	\$1,033,000
Prior Approval:	\$0
Remaining Budget:	\$0

Funding for this action has been budgeted and accounted for in the FY09 annual budget under development. The estimated cost of this action is \$1,033,000.

Dependent on the scheduling dates of any necessary interest arbitration hearings, the amount requested will be spent in either FY09 or FY10.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board approve the procurement and awarding of contracts under the Basic Ordering Agreements (BOAs) for On-Call Technical Consultant services in labor negotiations/and expert witness services for any necessary interest arbitration contingencies in FY09 and FY10.



On-Call Technical Consultant Services for Collective Bargaining/Interest Arbitration

Presented to the Board of Directors:

**Finance, Administration and Oversight
Committee**

June 12, 2008





Purpose

- To request that the Finance, Administration and Oversight Committee recommend to the Board to approve on-call technical consultant services for collective bargaining and/or interest arbitration
- The service contract will initiate and award multiple contracts for a 24-month base period of FY09 and FY10 by utilizing Basic Ordering Agreements (BOAs)



Background

- Technical consultants and expert witnesses (such as labor economists, statistical specialists in wage comparability, pension actuarial specialists, and health/welfare benefit specialists) are necessary to advance the strategic interests of the Authority both in collective bargaining and/or interest arbitrations
- Authority has used BOAs to obtain these services since 2004
- Existing BOA authority expires on June 30, 2008



Background (cont')

- Authority is currently in collective bargaining with Local 689 ATU and Local 2 OPEIU, and will open collective bargaining with Local 922 IBT in FY09
- Authority desires immediate approval to this service contract in order to retain consultants/expert witnesses to support current labor negotiations and any possible interest arbitration contingencies in FY09 and FY10



Funding Impact

- This action authorizes \$1.03 million to fund the BOAs in the FY09 pending budget with the understanding that dependent on the scheduling of any interest arbitration hearings, the amount could be actually spent in either FY09 or FY10.



Recommendation

- The Board approves the funding to support Basic Ordering Agreements (BOAs) for On-call Technical Consultant services for collective bargaining and interest arbitration.