**Request for Information (RFI)**

**Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) Tagging equipment and application**

**Introduction:**

The Washington Metropolitan Area Transportation Authority (WMATA) is gathering information that may facilitate a formal procurement process and invites your firm to provide input associated with this Request for Information (RFI). Any suggestions received through this inquiry may be incorporated into a final scope of work that will provide the basis for a future procurement solicitation.

**Background:**

The Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) is contemplating the purchase of RFID technology that will allow for accurate dead reckoning of rail bound vehicles operating through WMATA rail system. WMATA is sending out this RFI to perform a market survey to determine qualified vendors who can meet the requirements as outlined below. WMATA is also interested in learning about alternative products in the market that meet or exceed the stated minimum requirements.

As a minimum, the RFID technology (or other) shall meet the following criteria:

* Easily installed into existing and future rail bound vehicles.
* Shall operate as a standalone system.
* Markers shall be easily mounted on the WMATA roadway.
* Marker reading system shall be easily mounted on WMATA rail bound vehicles.
* Markers shall not require a power source. The marker reading system may be powered from a power source on the WMATA rail bound vehicle.
* Markers shall be accurately read at speeds of up to 75 mph with an accuracy within 5 feet.
* Must be able to correlate the marker to a specific chain marker (mile post) pre-determined before installation. For example, a specific marker should be identified as “A-Line, Track 1, 375+50”(Route, Track, Specific Linear Distance).
* Markers shall be able to withstand daily exposure to sunlight, heavy rain, ice and snow, and a dusty environment.
* The dimensions of the markers shall be minimal

Interested vendors/manufacturers shall provide information regarding products and services related to delivering, training and installation of the marker system. In addition, interested vendors/manufacturers shall provide a capability statement of their experience in successfully developing and delivering marker systems. The capability statement shall include the name and address of the transit agency or railroad, a brief description of the project, and a contact person’s name and telephone number from the agency.

WMATA will not be responsible for any cost incurred in furnishing this information.

If a solicitation is released, it will be advertised on the Authorities web-site at: <https://www.wmata.com/Business/procurement/solicitations/active-procurement-opportunities.cfm> and the Federal website [www.fbo.gov](http://www.fbo.gov).

**Objectives of the RFI**

This RFI provides the opportunity for contractors, suppliers, distributors, service-providers, private firms and corporations, etc. to assist WMATA with gathering technical information relative to the procurement and technical specifications for RFID markers used in dead reckoning of rail bound vehicles.

Responses to this RFI will not be used to qualify proposers/bidders for future solicitations, nor are they a pre-condition to responding to future RFP’s or IFB’s.

The objectives of this RFI are to:

* Gather information on industry’s capabilities and insights to contractual terms and obligations that would enhance participation in a future solicitation from industry leaders.
* Receive feedback from industry on: the technical specifications for RFID marker systems; and recommendations for alternative solutions.
* Obtain responses to specific technical inquiries from industry for consideration. Identify opportunities for innovative approaches to improve desired product, obtain industry updates regarding type, certification criterion, availability, maintainability, and local sources.

Please submit technical responses to Alexander Seredich at aseredich@wmata.com no later than June 12, 2018. If you have any questions regarding this RFI, please also forward them to Alexander Seredich at the above email address. He can also be reached at 703-667-2757.