



TRUCKEE TAHOE AIRPORT DISTRICT STAFF REPORT

AGENDA TITLE: Approval of Tower Services Request for Information

MEETING DATE: December 2, 2020

PREPARED BY: Hardy Bullock, Director of Aviation & Community Services

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve the attached draft tower services request for information (RFI).

DISCUSSION: The current control tower service agreement with Midwest ATC expires on May 31, 2021. The current service agreement covers staffing and the lease of the control tower cab owned by Midwest ATC. The significant objectives of the RFI include:

1. Enhancing safety in a multi-disciplinary aeronautical environment.
2. Reducing community noise and annoyance.
3. Enhancing use of calm wind runways.
4. Working productively with airport staff to adapt and respond to aeronautical demands during peak periods while communicating with Staff, aviators, and the FAA.

The RFI also has new task items associated with higher levels of control resulting from the use of ADS-B surveillance technology. Staff has bifurcated the base services, (CLIN01) from these add services, (CLIN02,03,04), to give the TTAD an opportunity to select the service level and cost of preference.

Staff expects 3-5 qualified bidders to respond. Technical questions related to the current and added service offerings will take some time to answer so staff recommends an early start on dissemination of the RFI. The current tower control cab is owned by Midwest ATC and leased for \$36,000 per year. Staff has received a quote from Midwest ATC in July 2020 to sell TTAD the cab for a cost of \$200,000. Staff feels this cost is reasonable and may offer the District flexibility

in vendor selection going forward. If we chose not to purchase the tower cab, other vendors will provide their own.

One concept considered by Staff includes taking the control tower staffing in house. While cost saving may be realized it is not recommended based on liability and the technical landscape associated with training and certification of air traffic control staff.

WHAT'S NEXT: Direct Staff to collect RFI Responses, rank them and return to the Board for vendor selection in March or April 2021.

FISCAL IMPACT: Current cost is \$848,203.70 per year. Staff expects bids for base services to be similar to current costs.

SAMPLE MOTION(S): I move to (approve, continue, deny) the air traffic control tower services Request for Information (RFI) as attached with the following modifications (list if any).

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment A: Tower Control Services Request for Information