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**COMMISSION**

AGENDA MEMORANDUM Item No. 8d

ACTION ITEM Date of Meeting July 23, 2024

DATE : June 10, 2024

TO: Stephen P. Metruck, Executive Director

FROM: Steve Kennard, Aviation Business and Properties, Property Manager

Jim Dawson, ICT

SUBJECT: DAS License Extension and RFP for selection of DAS Licensees

**ACTION REQUESTED**

Request Commission authorization for the Executive Director to extend the current AT&T DAS (Distributed Antenna System) license agreement for the purpose of preserving current system function while Port staff issues an RFP to solicit a licensee under a new license for DAS services before the extension period expires.

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The current airport DAS (telecom infrastructure that provides in-airport signal for voice wireless/cellular carriers such as AT&T, Verizon and T-Mobile) license expires July 31, 2024, and needs to be extended to continue these critical services while an RFP is developed to select a new licensee. DAS services are currently provided by AT&T as a neutral host carrier under a contract issued in 2004. The system requires upgrading, and component replacement will be complex. The airport needs time to develop an RFP to ensure a robust, competitive, and thorough solicitation of a new neutral host provider. AT&T has agreed to continue providing DAS services under its existing license under substantially similar terms for an additional period of 1 year with 3 six-month optional extension periods.

**JUSTIFICATION**

The current DAS license was issued in 2004 at a time when in-building cellular antenna network technology was in its early stages. By extending the current DAS license, Port staff will have the time needed to solicit proposals for replacement of the current license and system with one that reflects current technology and industry standards. With the new license, the airport can maintain and improve voice wireless performance and the SEA customer experience. Port procurement standards prevent further extension of the current license other than for the purpose of issuance of an RFP to ensure a competitive process for licensee selection.

Template revised January 10, 2019.

COMMISSION AGENDA – Action Item No. 8d Page 2 of 2

Meeting Date: July 23, 2024

Diversity in Contracting

Diversity in Contracting will be included in the review of proposals.

**DETAILS**

The current license required the licensee to fund system installation, maintenance and operation of the DAS for a 10- year contract term. As airport expansion and renovation occurred after the initial 10-year term, the airport offered contract extensions in consideration of additional capital investment from licensee to expand the DAS infrastructure.

The goal of the RFP is to obtain a neutral host provider and ensure greater control of system infrastructure and customer experience. We anticipate bringing the RFP, which includes the proposed new license terms, to Commission for approval in the near future.

**Scope of Work**

Execute the 4th Amendment to extend the License Agreement for Wireless Communications Access System Executed January 27, 2004. The extension amendment will provide up to 30 months of additional time for RFP issuance, selection, contract negotiation and system implementation to ensure a seamless transition to a new DAS system.

**ATTACHMENTS TO THIS REQUEST**

(1) AT&T DAS License Amendment 4 (term extension)

**PREVIOUS COMMISSION ACTIONS OR BRIEFINGS**

None.

Template revised June 27, 2019 (Diversity in Contracting).