



RIVERSIDE PUBLIC UTILITIES

Board Memorandum

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

DATE: FEBRUARY 10, 2020

ITEM NO: 5

SUBJECT: PURCHASE OF 90 CRADLEPOINT CELLULAR MODEMS, ASSOCIATED EQUIPMENT, AND MONTHLY CELLULAR SERVICE FEES FOR ONE YEAR FROM AT&T FOR THE ADVANCED METER INFRASTRUCTURE COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK IN THE AMOUNT OF \$116,962.21

ISSUE:

Approve the purchase of 90 Cradlepoint cellular modems, associated equipment, and monthly cellular service fees for one year from AT&T under the NASPO ValuePoint Cooperative Purchasing Agreement MA149-1, for Advanced Meter Infrastructure communications network, in the amount of \$116,962.21.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Public Utilities approve the purchase of 90 Cradlepoint cellular modems, associated equipment, and monthly cellular service fees for one year, with AT&T for Advanced Meter Infrastructure collectors, in the amount of \$116,962.21.

BACKGROUND:

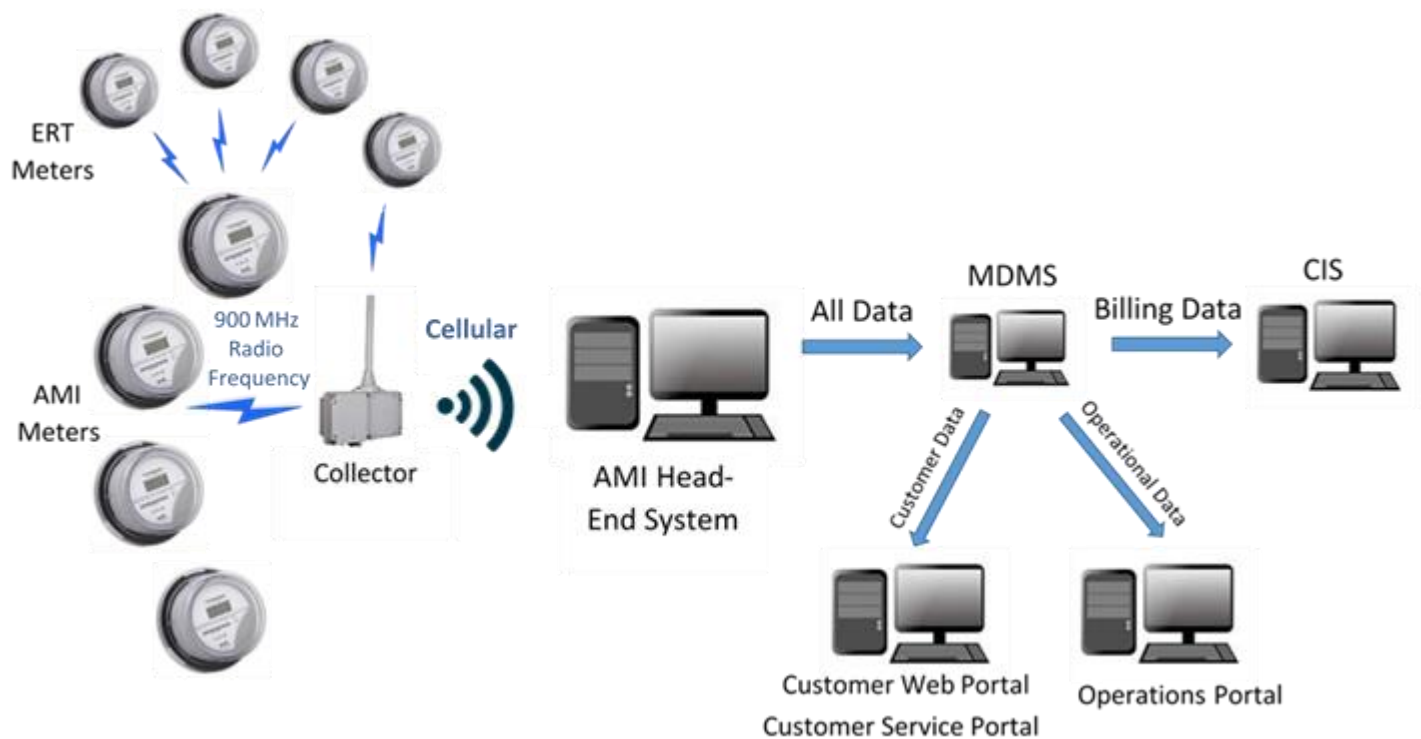
On January 28, 2019, the Board of Public Utilities (Board) approved Agreements with Tantalus Systems, Inc for an Electric Advanced Meter System and SmartWorks, a division of N. Harris Computer Corporation, for a Meter Data Management System. The Board also approved Riverside Public Utilities (RPU) to proceed with the first phase of the Electric Advanced Meter System and Meter Data Management System.

On October 28, 2019, the Board approved RPU to proceed with the second phase of the Electric Advanced Meter System and Meter Data Management System.

DISCUSSION:

As presented to Board on October 28, 2019, the first step in the Beta Proof-of-Concept is to install all remaining communication devices (collectors and repeaters) throughout Riverside Public Utilities' (RPU) service area, as well as approximately 1,000 additional Advanced Meter Infrastructure AMI meters. As illustrated in the high-level system diagram (Figure 1) below, the AMI meters communicate to the collectors through 900 MHz radio frequency, and from the collector to the AMI Head-End System (HES) through AT&T private cellular network (PCN). Cellular modems and antennas are installed within the collectors to facilitate the communication process between the collector and the HES.

Figure 1. High-Level System Diagram



Based on a propagation study conducted by the AMI vendor during the planning stage of the project, RPU needs 84 collectors to cover its service area. Staff is requesting Board approval to purchase a total of 90 cellular modems from AT&T, which includes six (6) spares to hold in inventory, associated equipment, and the monthly service fee for the 84 active modems for a term of one year.

Through research and due diligence, it was discovered that RPU, in partnership with Innovation and Technology (IT), could expedite the purchase of the cellular modems, and associated cellular service, directly from AT&T through the NASPO ValuePoint Cooperative Purchasing Agreement MA149-1. The NASPO multi-state cooperative purchasing program provides pre-negotiated discounts to participating agencies. This cooperative purchasing program has been competitively bid nationally and meets the City's procurement requirements under Purchasing Resolution 23256, Section 702 (e), which provides that competitive procurement through the formal and informal procurement process shall not be required when "Cooperative Purchasing is available and undertaken or when Services can be obtained through Federal, State and/or other public entity pricing contracts or price agreements."

The City Purchasing Manager concurs that the recommendation for this purchase is in compliance with Purchasing Resolution No. 23256, Section 702 (e).

FISCAL IMPACT:

The total fiscal impact of the purchase from AT&T is \$116,962.21, which includes monthly service fees for one year in the amount of \$43,505.28. The funds were approved in the project budget and are available in the Public Utilities Advanced Metering Infrastructure Account No. 6130200-470823.

Sufficient funds for the annual service fee will be included in the operating budget during budget preparation for future budget cycles beginning with the biennial budget for Fiscal Years 2020/21 and 2021/22.

Prepared by: Daniel E. Garcia, Utilities Assistant General Manager/Resources
Approved by: Todd M. Corbin, Utilities General Manager
Approved by: Al Zelinka, FAICP, City Manager
Approved as to form: Gary G. Geuss, City Attorney

Certifies availability
of funds: Brian Seinturier, Utilities Fiscal Manager

Attachments:

1. AT&T Quote dated 12/12/2019
2. Presentation