



# **REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**

## **Electric Transit Buses**

**DULUTH TRANSIT AUTHORITY**

## **Addendum #2**

July 16, 2024

**PLEASE NOTE: THE PROPOSAL DUE DATE HAS BEEN CHANGED TO 1:00 P.M. CDT ON THURSDAY, AUGUST 1, 2024.**

Please change all references in the RFP to reflect this date.

1. Clarifications and Approved Equals to date, TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS:

a. Section 1.02, "General", page 8: A Rear Door Step minimum height of 15.7 inches is accepted as an approved equal.

b. Section, 102, "General", page 8, A bus height of up to 140 inches is accepted as an approved equal.

c. Section 1.04, "Shell", page 8: Please add the following: "Gillig's Exterior Paint Appearance Standards are accepted as an approved equal."

d. Section 1.05, "Body", page 9: please add: "Gillig's monocoque body structure made from a combination of aluminum and stainless-steel elements is accepted as an approved equal. RIDE's steel chassis frame with an aluminum body frame is accepted as an approved equal."

Please note that approved equals must still meet the warranty requirements and corrosion standards herein.

e. Section 1.05, "Interior", page 14, subparagraph 1, "Headroom", page 14, please add the following: "RIDE's 74-inch headroom in the high floor section of the bus is accepted as an approved equal."

d. Section 1.05, "Interior", page 14, please add the following: "Gillig's Driver Barrier constructed of .25-inch Boltaron 4800 fiberglass composite and/or .25-inch thick Royalite R66/R61 Fiberglass Composite materials are accepted as an approved equal."

f. Section 1.07, "Floor", subparagraph 1, "Material", page 15, please add the following: "RIDE's standard floor installation using sheet metal screws and mounting on the frame of the chassis is accepted as an approved equal."

g. Section 1.07, "Floor", subparagraph 3, "Slope", page 16, please add the following: "RIDE's standard 20-inch height above the lower level (aft of the rear door) is accepted as an approved equal."

h. Section 1.08, "Wheelhousing", subparagraph 1, "Construction", page 16, please add the following: "RIDE's 2mm aluminum standard wheelhousing is accepted as an approved equal."

Please note that the wheelhousing material must have a matte finish to prevent glare during nighttime driving."

i. Section 1.08, "Wheelhousing", paragraph 2, "Splash Aprons", page 16, please DELETE the words ~~"Front wheelhousings shall also have a brush to minimize splashing."~~ This requirement has been removed from the specifications.

j. Section 1.09, "Doors", subparagraph 2, "Front Door", page 17, please add the following: "Vapor slide glide electrical door is accepted as an approved equal. A clear opening of 33.7 inches is accepted as an approved equal."

k. Section 1.09, "Doors", subparagraph 4, "Glazing", page 17, please add the following at the end of the last sentence: "or ¼-inch (6mm) tempered glass."

l. Section 1.10, "Service Compartments and Access Doors", page 19: Clarification: Please add the following at the end of the second paragraph: "In lieu of captive fasteners, latches are acceptable with the DTA Maintenance Director's approval."

The DTA Maintenance Director will work with the selected vendor to identify those panels and doors that can be secured with a latch instead of a captive fastener.

m. Section 1.10, "Service Compartments and Access" subparagraph 2, "Exterior", please add the following at the end of the last paragraph: "or brass coated casting steel hinges."

n. Section 1.11, "Windshield Wipers and Washers", subparagraph 1, "Wipers", page 20, please add the following: "Windshield wipers that park towards the center of the windshield are accepted as an approved equal."

o. Section 1.12, "Lighting", subparagraph 1, "Exterior Lighting", page 21, please add the following: "RIDE's exterior lamps operating on 24v is accepted as an approved equal."

p. Section 1.12, "Lighting", subparagraph 4, "Stop, Taillights, and accident prevention system", page 21, please add the following: "Three 4-inch square round single lens piece assemblies, mounted vertically on both sides from top to bottom for brake/taillights, turn signal lights and reversing lights are accepted as an approved equal."

q. Section 1.13, "Interior Trim", subparagraph 2, "Trim Panels", page 28, please add the following: "A 2mm aluminum riser covered with floor covering on the riser below the rear seat is accepted as an approved equal."

r. Section 1.14, "Passenger Seats", subparagraph 1, "Arrangements", page 29, please add the following at the end of the first paragraph: "Gillig's preliminary seat layout is accepted as an approved equal."

s. Section 1.15, "Driver's Seat", second paragraph, page 31, please revise the sentence as follows: "An ABS plastic protective backshell or a 20% talc-filled polypropylene backshell shall be installed onto the seatback to protect the upholstery."

t. Section 1.17, "Windows", subparagraph 3, "Side Windows", page 34, please delete the last line of the second paragraph: ~~"Up to 4 windows may be required to have paint applied to a portion of the glazing, Ricon. Dura Ceramic Ink Jet Printing, or equivalent"~~

~~process.~~ Please add the words “or tempered glass” after “laminated glass” after the first sentence of the fourth paragraph.

u. Section 1.17, “Windows”, subparagraph 4, “Rear Window”, page 34, please add the following: “RIDE’s standard rear window is accepted as an approved equal.”

v. Section 1.17, “Windows” subparagraph 2, “Thermal Insulation”, page 34, please add the following: “Polymer Technologies, Inc. thermal insulation is accepted as an approved equal.” Please note that all thermal insulation products must meet FMVSS 302 standards found at 49 CFR §571.302.

w. Section 1.19, “Ancillary Features”, subparagraph 3, “Outside Mirrors”, page 36, please add the following: “RIDE’s standard configuration of a 5-inch by 8-inch convex mirror under a rectangular flat mirror is accepted as an approved equal.”

\*\*Please note that the third mirror requested in the specification, a 4-inch by 6-inch convex mirror is to enable the driver to see the bike rack in front of the bus. The size of this third mirror may be slightly larger, but cannot be smaller than 4-inches by 6-inches.

x. Section 1.21, “Entry Loading System, Wheelchair, subparagraph 2, “Securements” please modify the third sentence as follows: “Wheelchair accessible buses will have two tie downs (approved by the Minnesota Department of Transportation) and ~~jump seats~~ folding seats.” The DTA is not requesting jump seats, but would like seats that fold up to accommodate the wheelchairs and the tie downs if there is adequate space to do so.

y. Section 1.22, “Electric Propulsion System”, subparagraph 6, “Operating Range”, page 39, clarification: The DTA is seeking a summary of the operating profile of the bus in a colder climate (if available.) While the range of the bus is crucial, gradeability is also a key requirement. Several routes in the DTA route system are long, steep grades that require continuous power for several miles. Restricting power use of the drive train to preserve range may undermine the ability of the bus to sustain its speed for the duration of the climb on the route. The DTA is seeking a manufacturer that can effectively balance the two demands, range and gradeability, to ensure that the selected vehicle meets the DTA’s operational needs.

z. Section 1.24. “Primary Propulsion Unit and Traction Motors,” subparagraph 5, page 40, please add the following at the beginning of the last line: “To the fullest extent possible,” DTA will be granted full reprogramming functionality to all components of the vehicle. “For those components that are not made available to the DTA for reprogramming, the DTA shall not be charged to change inaccessible settings requested by DTA.”

The DTA accepts that due to safety concerns, the OEM may not allow some components to be reprogrammed by the agency.

aa. Section 1.25, “Energy Storage System and Controller”, subparagraph 12, page 41, please add the words “if any.” at the end of the paragraph, and add the following: “In lieu of an independent testing certification, the Vendor shall provide the results of the

battery manufacturer's life cycle test upon request by the DTA Director of Maintenance."

The DTA accepts that some battery manufacturers may not have battery life cycle testing and certification from third parties, but requests that the battery life cycle test results by the Battery manufacturer be available upon request by the DTA.

ab. Section 1.34, "Mounting", paragraph 10. "Transmission. (if required)", page 49, clarification: The DTA accepts that the powertrain component OEM will be responsible for major warranty repairs during the respective warranty period of the component. Cummins Repair Duluth located at 31115 Truck Center Drive, Duluth, MN 55806, is accepted as a warranty repair provider for Cummins components.

ac. Section 1.37, "Suspension", subparagraph 1, "General Requirements", page 50, please add the following: "ZF RL83A is accepted as an approved equal front axle."

ad. Section 1.39, Brakes, Wheels and Tires", subparagraph 2, "Actuation", please add the following: "Knorr DX80E electrical foot valve is accepted as an approved equal."

ac. Section 1.39, "Brakes, Wheels and Tires", subparagraph 9, "Wheels and Tires", page 53, please add the following: "Aluminum wheels are accepted as an approved equal where they are needed to ensure that the bus meets the Gross Vehicle Weight Rating."

ad. Section 1.39, "Brakes, Wheels and Tires", subparagraph 3, "Hubs and Drums", page 52, please add the following: "ZF's RL82A solid beam axle with air suspension in lieu of a front hub that can be disassembled is accepted as an approved equal."

ae. Section 1.40, Pneumatic System", subparagraph 1, "Air System", page 54, RIDE's current pneumatic system that includes a Fastenal 430020 shop air quick disconnect with an integrated governor is accepted as an approved equal.

af. Section 1.40, "Pneumatic System", subparagraph 4, "Air Lines", page 54, please add the word: "prefer." for the color of the suspension lines. DTA prefers that the suspension lines be designated blue but does not require it.

ag. Section 1.40, "Pneumatic System," subparagraph 7, page 55, please add Bendix AD-IS as an approved equal.

ah. Section 1.42, "Electrical System", subparagraph 18, "High Voltage Wiring", page 49, please add the following after the first line: "SAE Best Practices and Recommended Procedures J366, J366, J1127, J1128, J1263, J1308, J1455, J1772, J1939, J1939, J2344, J2464, J2840, J2910 and RESS are accepted as approved equal."

ai. Section 1.42, "Fire Detection, Fire Suppression", subparagraph 1, "Fire Detectors, page 67, please add the following: "RIDE's fire suppression system with linear thermal detection is accepted as an approved equal."

aj. Section 1.42, "Fire Detection, Fire Suppression", subparagraph 2, page 67, please add "Amerex V30" as an approved equal.

- ak. Section 1.44, "Interior Climate Control", subparagraph 1, "Capacity and Performance", page 68, please add the following: "A 68,000 BTU electric heater with a Valeo Thermo-H 104,000 BTU fuel fired auxiliary heater is accepted as an approved equal."
- al. Section 144, "Interior Climate Control", paragraph 7, page 69, please add the following: "Thermo King TE 18 All-Electric HVAC system is accepted as an approved equal."
- am. Section 144, "Interior Climate Control", subparagraph 3, "Airflow, Passenger Area", page 70, please add the following: "Gillig's standard supplemental floor heating without ducts across the length of the bus is accepted as an approved equal."
- an. IT Specifications, subparagraphs 3, "Electronic Equipment Compartment, (ECC)", please add the following: "Gillig's standard 44-inch tall Electrical Equipment Box with interior lights and slide out shelves is accepted as an approved equal."
- ao. IT Specifications, subparagraph 3.4, "Communication Antennas", page 81, first sentence, please add the words "or decals" before the words "on the roof". The DTA requires numbers on the roof of the buses, they can be painted or decals may be applied. The placement of the communication antennas should not cause the numbers to be indecipherable.
- ap. IT Specifications, subparagraph 3.4, "Communication Antennas, page 82, please delete ~~"mounted with rivnuts and machine screws, sealed with waterproof caulk; installation to be approved by the DTA."~~ Please add the following: "All antenna securements must be of sufficient strength to fasten the antenna to the roof for the life of the bus, must be corrosion resistant and must have a waterproof seal."
- aq. IT Specifications, subparagraph 3.4. "Communication Antennas", page 82, at the end of the paragraph A, please add the following: "Gillig is approved to provide their standard antenna mounting ground plane and sealant."
- ar. IT Specifications, subparagraph 3.6, "Mobile Access Router (MAR)", subparagraph d, page 83, please add the words "or other fasteners with similar strength and durability" at the end of the second sentence.
- as. IT Specifications, section 3.8, "Public Address System/OBS Provisions", subparagraph b, page 85, please add the words "or via a hinged access panel" after the words "machine screws".
- at. IT Specifications, Section 3.8, "Public Address System/OSB Provisions", subparagraph b, page 85, please add the following: "Driver's and passenger speakers do not have to be from the same vendor."
- au. IT Specifications, Section 3.11, "Radio Handset and Control System Provisions", subparagraph b, page 85, please DELETE the following: ~~"This speaker shall be the same component used for the speakers in the passenger compartment."~~ Please add at

the end of the second sentence: “**or other fasteners that will securely mount the speakers for the life of the bus.**”

av. IT Specifications, Section 3.13, “Emergency Alarm”, page 85, please add the following: “**A Crime Alarm switch from Vontas/Trapeze, p/n 24T0058, is accepted as an approved equal.**”

aw. IT Specifications, Section 3.14, “Cable Installations”, page 86, clarification: the specifications in this paragraph are in reference to the Vontas/Trapeze system installed on the buses and is included as part of the work for the system. It is not additional work separate from the Vontas/Trapeze hardware.

ax. IT Specifications, Section 4.14, “Transit Signal Priority System”, page 90, please add the following: “**The Opticom Traffic Priority System, Kit #76-1000-1156-0, without specific Tyco relays is accepted as an approved equal.**”

## 2. Clarifications and Approved Equals to date, GENERAL SPECIFICATIONS:

a. Draft Contract, Article 3, “PAYMENTS TO CONTRACTOR” page 34, RIDE’s request to add “DTA shall have three business days to inspect and reject the delivered work or the delivered work is deemed accepted by the DTA.” is not accepted. The DTA agrees to 50% payment five days after the vehicle arrives at the DTA Operations Center, but is retaining the 21-day acceptance period for a complete review of the buses and their systems.

b. Draft Contract, Article 3, “PAYMENTS TO CONTRACTOR”, page 34, DTA will not strike the sentence “DTA may withhold payment where the products or services or any claimed reimbursable expenses are not documented or warranted, or when the product does not meet the specifications herein or service was not performed in accordance with the terms of the Contract Documents.” The DTA retains these rights in the Contract Document.

c. Draft Contract, Article 4, “ASSIGNABILITY”, page 34, please add “**Such consent shall not be unreasonably withheld.**” at the end of the paragraph. The DTA will not grant the right to assign an interest to any Contractor affiliate without prior consent, but consent will not be unreasonably withheld.

d. Draft Contract, Article 5, “Termination”, page 35, no changes to this paragraph are approved.

e. Draft Contract, Article, “INSURANCE”, the DTA approves Gillig’s insurance coverage since it meets the contract requirements in this paragraph.

f. Draft Contract, Article 23, “GOVERNING LAW”, page 39, no requested changes are approved for this paragraph.

g. Draft Contract, Article 24, “CANCELLATION”, please add the following: “**In the event of cancellation, the terms of the FTA Termination Clause A.25 herein will apply.**”

h. Draft Contract, Article 25, "PRICE ADJUSTMENT", no changes are made to this paragraph.

i. Requests for limitations of liability or consequential damage language are not approved.

### 3. Clarifications and Approved Equals to date, SPECIAL SPECIFICATIONS.

a. Special Specifications, Subparagraph E, "Acceptance Tests", page 47, please add the following at the beginning of paragraph 1: "Upon arrival of each bus at the DTA Operations Center, the DTA shall sign a receipt of delivery and note any visible or obvious defects or damage, which will be the Contractor's responsibility. The DTA loss risk transfers to the DTA at the time of receipt, provided however, that the loss is not caused by a defect or damage that was present before the bus arrived at the DTA Operations Center."

The DTA will place its standard insurance coverage on the bus when it arrives at the Operations Center.

b. Special Specifications, Subparagraph F, "Warranty Provisions" page 48, please add the following at the end of paragraph 1: "Warranties will commence when the bus is placed into revenue service, but no later than 60 days after bus acceptance unless the DTA issues a conditional acceptance notice to the Contractor under the Acceptance procedures. Warranties on components that are not affected by a conditional acceptance notice will commence when the bus is placed into revenue service, or 60 days after the bus arrives at the DTA operations Center, whichever comes first."

c. Special Specifications, Subparagraph L, the DTA will not waive the Liquidated Damages provision.

### 4. Clarifications to date, GENERAL SPECIFICATIONS.

a. The DTA intends to make an award for this Contract as early as September 25, 2024. There is no specified date of delivery, the DTA is requesting delivery within 18 months, recognizing that Contractors already have other contractual commitments that affect their schedule.

b. Clarification: General Specifications, paragraph 11., "Proposal Format", page 8, please delete the reference to page limits. There is no set limit, but brevity is preferred.

c. Clarification: The DTA will accept Proposal submissions via a link to a drop box in lieu of an emailed response, provided however, that the DTA staff can access the information easily and repeatedly. Respondents are also permitted to send the Vendor Response as an attachment separated into multiple emails if that is preferred.

d. Qualifications Requirements, Paragraph 24, page 13, please note that the specific information listed in this paragraph are only necessary if requested by the DTA Evaluation Committee after Proposal submission. Respondents should take note of the Submission Requirements Checklist on the DTA website at [www.duluthtransit.com](http://www.duluthtransit.com).



- e. Please note that the Pricing Worksheet is available on the DTA website, [www.duluthtransit.com](http://www.duluthtransit.com). The worksheet is in Excel format to enable Respondents to easily edit it.
- f. The DTA will accept a letter from the FTA detailing the TVM's compliance with the FTA's DBE program, but also requires Certificate C. "Transit Vehicle Manufacturer Certification, page 77 of the RFP. This certificate must be signed and returned with the Proposer's Response.
- g. Section 6, "Submittal Requirements, Evaluation", subparagraph A, "Proposer's Statement of Qualifications", page 63, please note that the Proposer is not required to submit a summary of the Proposer's skill and experience and has the necessary facilities and financial resources to perform the Contract at the time of Proposal submission. The DTA reserves the right to request this information during the evaluation phase of the procurement. The Proposer is not required to submit a list of transit systems using the proposed vehicle unless requested by the DTA Evaluation Committee.
- h. Section 6, "Submittal Requirements, Evaluation", subparagraph A, "Proposer's Statement of Qualifications", page 63, the DTA will accept a sample page from the Proposer's parts manual, maintenance manual and operating manual along with an electronic link to the manuals at the time of proposal submission. The electronic link must be free to use and must be accessible repeatedly and by multiple staff at the DTA.
- i. Section 6, "Submittal Requirements, Evaluation", page 63, the DTA is requesting a list of three references at the time of Proposal submission, a standard reference list is acceptable.
- j. Required Certifications, Bu America Preward and Post Delivery certifications, Pages 77-78, please note that these certifications are required at the time of Proposal submission. The DTA will conduct an independent preaward audit prior to awarding a contract in accordance with FTA requirements.
- k. Warranty and Parts, the DTA is requesting that the following information be submitted in the Proposal Response
- a list of Diagnostic Equipment that must be purchased in order to service the Proposed buses,
  - a list of Consumable Spare Parts that are recommended to be kept in inventory to service the buses,
  - a list of spare parts that are recommended to be kept in inventory to service the buses, and
  - a list of training options available for DTA staff.

Current cost for these items would also be appreciated.

l. Clarification: The DTA may consider buying from a State Purchasing Schedule if all of the terms and conditions of the Purchasing Schedule has the same terms and conditions as the DTA has in its RFP.

m. No deviation requests were submitted to the DTA.

n. Further clarifications on changes requested in the example Contract will be provided on July 19, 2024.