

Justification to Extend Transit Security Service with Security Experts and Leaders (SEAL)

Explanation

Security Experts and Leaders (SEAL) will continue to provide transit security services on a month-to-month basis to RTA, as was authorized by the Board of Commissioners on June 25, 2024 through Resolution No. 24-036. At that time, it was anticipated that RTA would develop and implement a physical security deployment strategy (whether in-house or contracted) by May 31, 2025. The Physical Security team began the process of researching and identifying a new security vendor, however, due to the technical complexity of the requirements, which exceeded internal expertise, we were unable to complete the evaluation within the expected timeframe. We are now in the process of engaging with technical consultants to support a new selection, but in the interim, an additional change order is necessary to maintain security services with the current vendor. Staff is requesting an extension of the current services (at existing levels) through February 28, 2026.

On average, RTA pays \$25,872 to SEAL per week for transit security services. This includes services that were added in September 2022 and August 2023 to provide coverage for the transit hubs implemented with New Links and the Canal Street Ferry Terminal, respectively.

Calculation

With this service agreement, the projected total cost to continue services at current levels through February 28, 2026 is approximately \$643,091. This is the estimated amount needed for services from October 1, 2025, through February 28, 2026, at an average rate of \$25,872/week for 22 weeks. This includes a 3% contingency to help support special events such as festival season, public meetings hosted by RTA, and other ad hoc requests for specialized security services. See calculation, below:

$\$22/\text{hr rate} \times 24 \text{ hrs per day} = \$528 \text{ per day} \times 7 \text{ days} = \3696 weekly

$\$3696 \times 7 \text{ hubs (Willow Barn, Duncan Plaza, Lake Forest, Admin Front Desk, NOLA East, Rear Gate, Money Room)} = \$25,872 \text{ weekly} \times 22 \text{ weeks} = \$569,184$

In August 2022, Canal Street service was added at a rate of \$22/hr. Canal Street service is 114 hrs per week $\times 22 \text{ weeks} = 2,508 \text{ hours} \times \$22/\text{hr} = \$55,176$

Total amount estimated from October 1, 2025, through February 28, 2026: \$624,360

Including the 3% contingency, we estimate needing \$643,091 to cover invoices from October 1, 2025 through February 28, 2026, approximately 22 weeks.

$\$624,360 + 3\% (\$18,731) \approx \$643,091$

Total requested service agreement amount: \$643,091