

## Legislation Text

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File #: 15-2297, Version: 1

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### CATS Amenities Bus Stop Benches

#### Action:

- A. Approve the purchase of transit bus stop benches, as authorized by the sole source exemption of G.S. 143-129 (e)(6),**
- B. Approve a unit price contract with Simme, LLC for the purchase of transit bus stop benches for a term of two years, and**
- C. Authorize the City Manager to renew the contract for up to three additional, one-year terms with possible price adjustments and to amend the contract consistent with the City's business needs and the purpose for which the contract was approved.**

#### Staff Resource(s):

Steve Warren, CATS

#### Sole Source Exemption

- G.S. 143-129 (e) (6) provides that formal bidding requirements do not apply when:
  - Performance or price competition are not available;
  - A needed product is available from only one source or supply; or
  - Standardization or compatibility is the overriding consideration.
- Sole sourcing is necessary for this contract because there is only one supply source.
- City Council must approve purchases made under the sole source exception.

#### Explanation

- The Charlotte Area Transit System (CATS) currently uses Simme-Seats at bus stops selected for areas where traditional seating will not work due to limited location space.
- The seats are a unique design - the sign base and seats are combined into one surface mounted unit. Simme, LLC has a patent on the design, is the manufacturer of the product, and is the sole distributor of the product.
- The design enables CATS to provide bus stop seating in areas of limited right-of-way. This application saves \$87 per unit compared to standard bench and bus stop sign base designs.
- The Simme-Seats unit can be installed without constructing the standard concrete bench pad, resulting in further savings of approximately \$2,000 in construction costs.
- Additionally, the Simme-Seats enhance comfort, are popular among users, and are fully compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act.
- Each Simme-Seat costs \$456.
- Annual expenditures under the contract are estimated to be \$95,035.

#### Charlotte Business INclusion

This is a sole source contract and is exempt (Part A: Appendix 1.27 of the Charlotte Business INClusion Policy).

**Fiscal Note**

Funding: CATS Community Investment Plan