



REPORT FOR ACTION

Contract Award – Distributed Antenna System Cell Phone Repeater

Date: July 5, 2024

To: Board of Directors, Toronto Parking Authority

From: President, Toronto Parking Authority

Wards: All

SUMMARY

This report seeks the approval of Toronto Parking Authority (TPA) Board of Director authority to award a contract for the implementation of new inbuilding distributed antenna system (DAS) cell phone repeater systems at the following four (4) car parks:

- Car Park 262: 10 Soho Street
- Car Park 150: 40 Larch Street
- Car Park 215: 74 Yorkville Avenue
- Car Park 286: 51 Dockside Drive

As part of TPA's journey to delivering best in class customer experience that delivers on choice, ease and speed, Management is investing in the systems needed to provide enhanced cellular coverage within underground garages, which can be suboptimal resulting in connectivity issues for customers, parking IT equipment and staff. The four (4) car parks identified for enhanced cellular coverage were prioritized based on transactional volume, revenues and customer feedback.

The new systems will amplify signals, ensuring reliable coverage throughout the underground garages and, consistent with our safety first approach, will elevate the safety and security of these facilities for both our customers and our staff. The system will also enable the planned integration of the Green P App with the gated equipment at these car parks, providing additional payment options as early as Q4 2024.

The recommendations in this report are the result of a Request for Proposals (RFP) process that commenced on May 14, 2024. Through a comprehensive evaluation of proposals received, it is recommended that a contract, in an amount not exceeding \$1,409,904, excluding Harmonized Sales Tax (HST), for the DAS cell phone repeater Project be awarded to Linkwave Wireless Solutions Inc.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The President, Toronto Parking Authority recommends that:

1. The Toronto Parking Authority Board of Directors provide authority to the President, Toronto Parking Authority, to negotiate, execute and enter into a contract with Linkwave Wireless Solutions Inc., to deliver the DAS Cell Phone Repeater Project (RFP-IT-202405-01), in an amount not exceeding \$1,409,904 inclusive of contingency but excluding Harmonized Sales Tax (HST).

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Sufficient funding is included in TPA's Approved 2024 – 2026 Capital Budget to award a contract in an amount not exceeding \$1,409,904 (excluding HST), including a contingency amount of \$183,901, to Linkwave Wireless Solutions Inc. to deliver the DAS Cell Phone Repeater Project.

COMMENTS

Current cellular coverage within TPA's underground parking garages is suboptimal, resulting in connectivity issues for customers, parking IT equipment and TPA staff. As part of TPA's journey to delivering best in class customer experience that delivers on choice, ease and speed, Management is investing in the systems needed to provide enhanced cellular coverage within underground garages.

Investments in cellular coverage will also expand customer payment options by enabling the planned integration of the Green P App with TPA's gated parking facilities. Management is working with its Vendor of gated equipment and App provider to deliver this integration by Q4 of 2024. This integration will eliminate the need for customers to visit parking machines, thereby avoiding queues, and saving time. To support this transition, TPA proposes the installation of a DAS cell phone repeater system to ensure robust network coverage throughout the four (4) car parks.

The DAS Cell Phone Repeater Project will significantly enhance mobile signal strength, allowing customers and staff to enjoy uninterrupted connectivity. A cell phone repeater system amplifies signals, ensuring reliable coverage throughout the underground garage facilities. It also improves cell voice quality and data speeds while providing safety and security to the customers and essential workers by providing robust phone coverage in case of emergency. The proposed infrastructure improvements have been designed to create a consistent signal strength, extending the cellular signal outside the facility, and will elevate the safety and security in the four (4) car parks.

The recommendations of this report are the product of a RFP that was publicly issued on MERX on May 14, 2024. Upon the RFP close on June 14, 2024, TPA received two (2) qualified bids from Precise Parklink Inc. and Linkwave Wireless Solutions Inc.

Based on comprehensive evaluation of the bids by TPA's Evaluation Committee, which considered the technical proposals, bid pricing, ability to complete the work within the prescribed timeframe, and recent project history, Management is recommending that the contract for the DAS Cell Phone Repeater Project (RFP-IT-202405-01) be awarded to Linkwave Wireless Solutions Inc.

The selection was guided by the technical proposal evaluation, fee evaluation, adherence to submission requirements, and acceptance of the terms and conditions noted in the RFP. A summary of the scoring and costs for the base scope is included in Table 1 below.

Table 1: Summary of Bids Received (RFP-IT-202405-01 - DAS Cell Phone Repeater)

	Company	Phase 1: Mandatory Submission Requirements	Phase 2: Technical Submission Score (Out of 75)	Phase 2: Technical Submission Result	Phase 3: Financial Score Total Proposal Cost	Phase 3: Financial Score (Out of 25)	Total Score (Out of 100)
1	Linkwave Wireless Solutions Inc.	Passed	65	Passed	\$1,226,003	23.49	88.49
2	PRECISE PARKLINK INC.	Passed	61	Passed	\$1,152,107	25	86

Should TPA Board of Directors adopt the recommendations of this report, Management will negotiate, execute and enter into a contract with Linkwave Wireless Solutions Inc. to deliver the DAS Cell Phone Repeater Project. Implementation is expected to be completed by November 1, 2024.

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

W. Scott Collier, President
Toronto Parking Authority