Form 100-326
01-12-22

Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority
STAFF SUMMARY AND COMMENTS

TITLE/DESCRIPTION:	Resolution No.:
CONTRACT: NON-RAIL AND HEALTHLINE LANDSCAPING SERVICES	2026-4
	Date: January 15, 2026
VENDOR: ESK LANDSCAPING LLC	Initiator: Central Facilities Maintenance Department
AMOUNT: NOT TO EXCEED $791,636.40 FOR A THREE-YEAR PERIOD AND IN AMOUNTS NOT TO EXCEED $272,654.76 AND $280,259.80 FOR EACH OF THE TWO OPTION YEARS, RESPECTIVELY, FOR A TOTAL CONTRACT AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED $1,344,550.96	

ACTION REQUEST:

☒ Approval ☐ Review/Comment ☐ Information Only ☐ Other _____

1.0 PURPOSE/SCOPE: This action will allow the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority ("Authority") to enter into a contract to provide Non-Rail and HealthLine Landscaping Services for a period of three years with two, one-year options.

2.0 DESCRIPTION/JUSTIFICATION: Landscaping is an integral aspect of maintaining the public image of the Authority, and it is required for compliance with laws and regulations. The Authority does not have the equipment or expertise to properly maintain the Non-Rail and HealthLine landscaping sites. Therefore, a landscaping contractor is necessary to maintain the high standards established by all key stakeholders. The Non-Rail and HealthLine landscaping sites require: weekly turf and bed maintenance; spring and fall cleanups; mulching; tree, bush, and shrub pruning; weed control; and bio-retention basin maintenance. The HealthLine landscaping sites additionally require semi-annual flower planting with watering, as needed, and winter plant protection.

3.0 PROCUREMENT BACKGROUND: The Request for Proposals (RFP) was posted on the Procurement Department website and advertised in the local newspapers. Two (2) proposals were received on November 10, 2025 in response to this solicitation. After evaluation by a panel of Authority employees in accordance with established Procurement Department policies and procedures, and after negotiations, the proposal of ESK Landscaping LLC to provide Non-Rail and HealthLine Landscaping Services in an amount not to exceed $791,636.40 for three years and in amounts not to exceed $272,654.76 and $280,259.80 for each of the two option years, respectively, for a total contract amount not to exceed $1,344,550.96 was selected as the most advantageous to the Authority.

A cost analysis was performed, and the Procurement Department has determined the negotiated price to be fair and reasonable to the Authority. This amount is 10.96% below the independent cost estimate.

4.0 DBE BACKGROUND: As a result of the USDOT Interim Final Rule published in the Federal Register and made effective October 3, 2025, DBE goal-setting has been suspended on Authority projects until further notice.

5.0 POLICY IMPACT: Does not apply.

6.0 ECONOMIC IMPACT: This contract will be funded through the General Fund, Central Facilities Maintenance Department budget, in an amount not to exceed $791,636.40 for three years and in amounts not to exceed $272,654.76 and $280,259.80 for each of the two option years, respectively, for a total contract amount not to exceed $1,344,550.96.

7.0 ALTERNATIVES: Reject this offer. Rejection of this offer would delay or prevent landscaping services at numerous Authority properties, resulting in deteriorated site conditions, negative public perception, and potential fines for failure to properly maintain Authority property.

8.0 RECOMMENDATION: This procurement was discussed at the January 6, 2026 Organizational, Services & Performance Monitoring Committee meeting. It is recommended that the negotiated offer from ESK Landscaping LLC be accepted and the resolution adopted authorizing the General Manager, Chief Executive Officer to enter into a contract.

9.0 ATTACHMENTS: None

Recommended and certified as appropriate to the availability of funds, legal form and conformance with the Procurement requirements.

General Manager, Chief Executive Officer

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-4

AUTHORIZING CONTRACT NO. 2025-130 WITH ESK LANDSCAPING LLC TO PROVIDE NON-RAIL AND HEALTHLINE LANDSCAPING SERVICES FOR A PERIOD OF THREE YEARS IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED $791,636.40 AND IN AMOUNTS NOT TO EXCEED $272,654.76 AND $280,259.80 FOR EACH OF THE TWO OPTION YEARS, RESPECTIVELY, FOR A TOTAL CONTRACT AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED $1,344,550.96 (GENERAL FUND, CENTRAL FACILITIES MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT BUDGET)

WHEREAS, the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority ("Authority") requires professional landscaping services to maintain its Non-Rail and HealthLine properties; and

WHEREAS, the proposal of ESK Landscaping LLC, with an office at 9000 Bank Street, Valley View, OH 44124, to perform Non-Rail and HealthLine Landscaping Services for a period of three-years with two, one-year options was received on November 10, 2025; and

WHEREAS, after negotiations, ESK Landscaping LLC has offered to provide Non-Rail and HealthLine Landscaping Services in an amount not to exceed $791,636.40 for a three year period and in amounts not to exceed $272,654.76 and $280,259.80 for each of the two option years, respectively, for a total contract amount not to exceed $1,344,550.96; and

WHEREAS, the General Manager, Chief Executive Officer deems the offer of ESK Landscaping LLC to be in the best interest of the Authority, price and other factors considered, and recommends acceptance thereof by the Board of Trustees.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority, Cuyahoga County, Ohio:

Section 1. That the offer from ESK Landscaping LLC, as negotiated, to provide Non-Rail and HealthLine Landscaping Services for a three-year period with two, one-year options be and the same is hereby accepted.

Section 2. That the General Manager, Chief Executive Officer of the Authority be and she is hereby authorized to enter into a contract with ESK Landscaping LLC to provide Non-Rail and HealthLine Landscaping Services for a three-year period, with the authority to exercise two, one-year options.

Section 3. That this contract will be funded through the General Fund, Central Facilities Maintenance Department budget, in an amount not to exceed $791,636.40 for a three year period and in amounts not to exceed $272,654.76 and $280,259.80 for each of the two option years, respectively, for a total contract amount not to exceed $1,344,550.96.

Section 4. That said contract shall be binding upon and an obligation of the Authority contingent upon compliance by the contractor with the specifications and addenda, if any; bonding and insurance requirements and all applicable laws relating to contractual obligations of the Authority.

Section 5. That this resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

Adopted: JANUARY 20, , 2026

President

Attest: Rajan D Jantan
Secretary-Treasurer