

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF HARFORD COUNTY

INFORMATIONAL REPORT

PRESENTATION OF AUTOMATED TRANSPORTATION ROUTING SOFTWARE

SEPTEMBER 8, 2014

Background Information:

The Harford County Board of Education (Board) desired a comprehensive review of its student transportation services with a focus on identifying opportunities to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of services. For this purpose, the Board engaged a consultant to perform a comprehensive analysis to ensure that various management, administrative, and operational aspects of the Department of Transportation would be fully assessed and the interrelationships between areas of strengths and weaknesses would be thoroughly evaluated. As a result of this effort, a report was issued that addressed operational efficiency and effectiveness, management structure and staffing levels, transportation policies and procedures, routing practices, and fleet maintenance. Observations in each of these areas were provided, and it was strongly recommended that Harford County Public Schools (HCPS) explore the opportunities that are available in today's sophisticated routing software programs. It was noted that the acquisition and implementation of a fully functional transportation routing and information management software system would assist HCPS in realizing efficiencies within its transportation system.

Discussion:

On behalf of the Department of Transportation, the Department of Purchasing issued a Request for Proposal (RFP #14-RRR-022) that publicly solicited vendors to propose their abilities to provide professional services required for the installation and implementation of an Automated Transportation Routing Software application. In response to this RFP, eight (8) firms submitted responses. These responses were evaluated by a selection committee that considered company capacity, financial stability, references, and experience in K-12 sector, project team qualifications, data management, reporting, and software functionality as required in the statement of work. Four (4) firms were "shortlisted," interviewed, and ranked.

As the result of this process, the committee has selected the Transfinder Corporation to provide the services required to successfully install and implement their software application with modules to include: *Routefinder Pro*, *Infofinder le*, and *Infofinder i*. Transfinder Corporation has over 25 years of transportation routing application experience and have implemented automated routing systems throughout the nation and in the State of Maryland.

Superintendent's Recommendation:

The Superintendent of Schools recommends that the Board of Education accept this informational report on the procurement, installation, and implementation of the Automated Transportation Routing Software to be supplied by the Transfinder Corporation.