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Description of document: National Railroad Passenger Corporation (AMTRAK) status report on the construction and implementation of the dedicated trackside broadband Wi-Fi network on the Northeast corridor 2016-2019

Requested date: 07-November-2016

Release date: 07-June-2019

Posted date: 05-September-2022

Source of document: FOIA Request
Amtrak FOIA Office
1 Massachusetts Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20001
[Online FOIA Portal \(PAL\)](#)

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VIA E-MAIL

June 7, 2019

Re: Freedom of Information Act Request – 17-FOI-00027

In the process of auditing our FOIA files, we discovered that your November 7, 2016 request for information made under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) still remains open.

Your request sought a copy of the most recent status report on the construction and implementation of the dedicated trackside broadband Wi-Fi network on the Northeast corridor

Response: Please see attachment.

If you have any questions regarding the processing of your request, please feel free to contact me at rebecca.conner@amtrak.com or at (202) 906-3215. For further assistance and to discuss any aspect of your request you may also contact our FOIA Public Liaison at FoiaPublicLiaison@amtrak.com. Additionally, you may contact the Office of Government Information (OGIS), National Archives and Records Administration, Room 2510, 8601 Adelphi Road, College Park, MD 20740-6001, e-mail at ogis@nara.gov, telephone at 202-741-5770; toll free at 1-877-684-6448; or fax 202-741-5769.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Conner
Manager, Records and Information Management

Current Quarter Date of Submission:	Q1 <input type="checkbox"/>	Q2 <input type="checkbox"/>	Q3 <input type="checkbox"/>	Q4 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Amtrak Comprehensive Project Report

1. Project Information

C.MK.100025	NEC Trackside Wireless Broadband Network	
Department/Discipline: Marketing – Passenger Experience		
Project Start Date: 10/01/16 Project End Date: 09/30/19 Funding Source(s): GCAP Amtrak Funding: Other Funding: Original Total Project Estimate: \$199,130,000	Project Type: Construction Project Description: Amtrak has completed the TSN Phase 2 Procurement for the installation, testing, operation, and maintenance of a secure trackside wireless broadband network (TSN) on Amtrak’s Northeast Corridor (NEC). The purpose of this TSN is to provide passengers aboard Amtrak’s Wi-Fi equipped trains on the NEC with a reliable, consistent broadband-speed Internet connection.	Project Leadership: Jason Molfetas Amtrak Dept/Disc POC: Lenetta McCampbell Amtrak Bus. Lead: Lou Lazzaro Amtrak PM: Jim Shevlin Additional Project Rep. (if necessary):

2. Project Scope

Project Risk	Changes to Project Scope		
<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; text-align: center;">SCOPE</td> <td style="width: 50%; text-align: center; background-color: #d9534f; color: white;">HIGH</td> </tr> </table>	SCOPE	HIGH	Additional task orders for the TSN Phase 2 project include the following: Task Order #2 – Design and build approximately (15) wayside sites from Ridley, PA to 30 th Street Station in Philadelphia. Task Order #3 – Upgrade the existing POC which relies upon a previous generation of ‘Fiber in Motion’ radio technology from RADWIN offering 2x2 MIMO and Diversity trackside antenna configuration that provided RF coverage from base stations to the Right of Way. This Task Order is to upgrade the POC sites to 3x3 MIMO technology. Task Order #4 – Survey and design the entire south end of the NEC from New York Penn Station down to Union Station in Washington, DC.
SCOPE	HIGH		
Because of the additional scope of work in Task Orders #2 and #4 this work will not be completed until FY2017			

3. Project Schedule

Project Risk		Project Schedule												
SCHEDULE	LOW	Current, Approved Project Schedule (as of 10/18/2016)												
		<i>(Insert project-specific milestones and mark the anticipated months expected to complete each milestone.)</i>												
		FY(2017)												
		OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	
		Start												
		90% Design Plans Approved by Amtrak Engineering		X										
		100% Design Plans Approved by Engineering			X									
		Task Order #1 (22 Sites) Construction Starts	X	X	X	X								
		Task Order #2	X	X	X	X	X	X						
		Task Order #3	X	X										
		Task Order #4		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

For Multi-Year, Multi-Phase Projects

(If the project is multi-year, insert project-specific milestones for each year and mark the anticipated quarters/years expected to complete each milestone. If the project is NOT multi-year, do not complete.)

		FY2016				FY2017				FY2018			
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Task Order #1 Design, Build 22 Sites													
Task Order #2 Design & Build 15 Sites													
Task Order #3 Upgrade Existing POC 9 Sites													
Task Order #4 South End Design													

4. Project Budget

Project Risk		Project Budget																
BUDGET	LOW	<p>Total Project Budget (as of 10/1/15) and Outlays (as of 10/18/2016) (\$MMs)</p> <p><i>(In the bar chart below, please edit the data to reflect the project's budget and actuals/forecast for the current fiscal year. This bar chart <u>may be replaced</u> with any visual representation that best reflects the project's budget and actuals.)</i></p> <table border="1"> <caption>Estimated Data from Budget Chart</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Category</th> <th>Expenditures To Date (up to current quarter) (\$MM)</th> <th>Forecasted Spend (Future Quarters) (\$MM)</th> <th>FY Total (\$MM)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Authorized Budget at Start of FY</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>~\$15.5M</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Current Authorized Budget</td> <td>-</td> <td>-</td> <td>~\$15.5M</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Actuals</td> <td>~\$4.5M</td> <td>~\$11.0M</td> <td>~\$15.5M</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Note: FY16 Close is an estimation, actuals have not posted yet. Approximately \$10M of FY16 Auth will carry over into FY17 to cover the outstanding work in TO1 and along with Auth FY17 \$(15M) will cover TO's 2-4.</p>	Category	Expenditures To Date (up to current quarter) (\$MM)	Forecasted Spend (Future Quarters) (\$MM)	FY Total (\$MM)	Authorized Budget at Start of FY	-	-	~\$15.5M	Current Authorized Budget	-	-	~\$15.5M	Actuals	~\$4.5M	~\$11.0M	~\$15.5M
Category	Expenditures To Date (up to current quarter) (\$MM)	Forecasted Spend (Future Quarters) (\$MM)	FY Total (\$MM)															
Authorized Budget at Start of FY	-	-	~\$15.5M															
Current Authorized Budget	-	-	~\$15.5M															
Actuals	~\$4.5M	~\$11.0M	~\$15.5M															

Budget Information

Amtrak Project Funding Spend Plan for FY(2016)

(Report the monthly spend plan for the fiscal year. If the project is funded by multiple sources, please differentiate the funding sources in the rows listed below. If a funding source is not listed below, please add the funding source to the list.)

Fiscal Year Authorized Budget (2016)

	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEPT	TOTAL
Capital Grant	\$ 1,120,193	\$ (1,094,985)	\$ 43,282	\$ 113,421	\$ 22,268	\$ 35,072	\$ 119,776	\$ 144,546	\$ 3,204,636	\$ 191,529	\$ 331,969	\$ 1,145,850	\$ 5,377,556
PRIIA 209 Contribution													\$ -
PRIIA 212 Contribution													\$ -
RRIF Contribution													\$ -
State Contribution													\$ -
Commuter Contribution													\$ -
Other (Please specify)													\$ -

Note: FY16 (Sep) Close is an estimation, actuals have not posted yet. Approximately \$10M of FY16 Auth will carry over into FY17 to cover the outstanding work in TO1 and along with Auth FY17 \$(15M) will cover TO's 2-4.

Amtrak Total Project Funding Sources and Spend Plan for Multi-Year, Multi-Phase Projects (as of 10/18/2016)

(If the project is multi-year, report the quarterly spend plan for the current and upcoming fiscal years. If the project is NOT multi-year, do not complete.)

	Total to Date*	FY 2016				FY 2017				FY 2018			
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Capital Grant	\$5.38M	\$68K	\$171K	\$3.46M	\$1.66M	\$5.33M	\$6.0M	\$6.50M	\$7.50M	\$14.9M	\$17.6M	\$22.6M	\$23.4M
PRIIA 209 Contribution													
PRIIA 212 Contribution													
RRIF Contribution													
State Contribution													
Commuter Contribution													

Note: FY16 Q4 Close is an estimation, actuals have not posted yet.

Project FY Quarterly Budget Actuals and Forecast (2016)¹

PROJECT QUARTERLY BUDGET ACTUALS AND FORECAST

Insert the most current information when completing this form the first time. For subsequent quarters enter budget figures for expenditures and changes to forecasted spending only.

Authorized Budget at Start of FY		Current Authorized Budget (Includes changes in reprogramming)		Expenditures to Date (up to current qtr.) + Forecasted Spending (future qtrs.)		Variance (%)	
Q1	\$ 68,491	Q1	\$ 68,491	Q1	\$ 68,491	Q1	\$ -
Q2	\$ 170,761	Q2	\$ 170,761	Q2	\$ 170,761	Q2	\$ -
Q3	\$ 3,373,247	Q3	\$ 3,373,247	Q3	\$ 3,468,958	Q3	\$ (95,711)
Q4	\$ 12,111,915	Q4	\$ 12,111,915	Q4	\$ 1,669,346	Q4	\$ 10,442,569
Total:	\$ 15,724,414	Total:	\$ 15,724,414	Total:	\$ 5,377,556	Total:	\$ 10,346,858

Note: FY16 Q4 Close is an estimation, actuals have not posted yet.

¹ **Authorized Budget at Start of FY:** The total dollar amount approved for the project at the beginning of the current FY or at initiation.

Current Authorized Budget: Refers to the total authorized dollar amount available at this time, which may include budgetary increases/decreases made through the reprogramming process. The available funds authorized to date.

Expenditures to Date: The total dollar amount spent on the project to date for the current FY.

Forecasted Spending: The dollar amount expected to be spent on the project in the remaining months of the current FY.

5. Project Issues, Corrective Actions & Lessons Learned

<p>Current Project Issues/Challenges</p>	<p>Task Order #2 will not be completed in FY2016. This Task Order SOW includes the design and construction of approximately (15) TSN sites from Ridley, PA up to 30th Street Station. The work will not begin until the (22) sites for Task Order #1 are completed. They are currently scheduled to be completed in April 2017. This is due to Amtrak Protection and Flagmen resource shortages.</p> <p>Task Order #4 is to complete the RF design work from NY to Washington, DC. It is scheduled to start in 1Q 2017 but will not be completed until the end of the 4th Quarter FY2017. This is due to Amtrak Protection and Flagmen resource shortages.</p>
<p>Do any of these issues require action from FRA?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes If yes, what are they? <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>
<p>Corrective Actions (if necessary)</p>	<p>The Passenger Experience team is continuing to work with Amtrak Communications and Signals (C&S) to hire full-time employees that will be assigned to the Tracksides project until the multi-year project is completed.</p> <p>The Passenger Experience team is working to provide Amtrak Environmental and Regulatory departments with more resources to expedite this work in a timely fashion.</p>
<p>Amtrak Project Recommendations & Lessons Learned</p>	<p>The Passenger Experience team is continuing to work with Amtrak Engineering departments all along the NEC to make future arrangements for Protection Services to maintain project continuity and stay on schedule to complete the project.</p> <p>The Passenger Experience team is continuing to work with the Amtrak Environmental and Cultural, Section 106 and SHPO resources to develop long term and short term initiatives to streamline these processes.</p>

6. Project Milestones

Planned Project Milestone	Target Date	Actual Date	Notes
Task Order #1 - 20 Miles (22 Sites)	2Q 2017		End of January 2017
Task Order #2 – 15 Miles to 30 th Street Station (15 Sites)	3Q 2017		End of April 2017
Task Order #3 – POC Equipment Upgrade (9 Sites)	1Q 2017		End of November 2016
Task Order #4 South End Design – NY to Washington, DC	4Q 2017		End of September 2017

3 rd Party Coordination Milestones	Target Date	Actual Date	Notes
Submit 90% Design Plans to Amtrak	10/01/16	10/14/16	
Submit 100% Design Plans to Amtrak	11/13/16		
Begin Task Order #1 Construction – (22 Sites)	12/15/16		
Task Order #3 – POC Equipment Upgrade and Activation	10/03/16	10/17/16	

Risk Rating Definitions

When presenting on an individual project, Amtrak should suggest an appropriate rating of the risk, (in collaboration and coordination with the FRA if necessary/requested) for the projects' scope, schedule, and budget. Risk ratings are assigned one of three values using these definitions:

Risk Rating	Definition
LOW	Green coding. Scope/schedule/budget are consistent with the SOW; identified risks are being adequately managed
MEDIUM	Yellow coding. Issues or risks have been identified that create a meaningful probability that scope/schedule/budget might not be fully met and/or Amtrak is proposing scope/schedule/budget changes that are likely to be within the grant's terms
HIGH	Red coding. Moderate to high likelihood that the project as current being executed will fail to meet scope/schedule/budget

Appendix/Supporting Detail

Task Order 01 – 22 New Wayside Sites

- 10.8 – Constitution (Ridley Radio Tower site)
- 11.5 – Baldwin
- 12.3 – Eddystone
- 13.4 – Welsh
- 14.4 – Lamokin
- 15.3 – Wilson
- 16.3 – Burton
- 17.4 – Hewes
- 18.5 – Naamans Road (gate before trestle, by billboard)
- 19.6 – Claymont (backside of station)
- 20.4 – Holly
- 21.3 – Orchard
- 22.3 – Bellevue (water side of RoW, over by substation)
- 23.1 – Fox Point (indicated at Rosser, on NS property)
- 23.9 – Edgemoor (on NS property, just off Edgemoor Road)
- 24.4 – Paladin (right at Signal hut with 24.4 on it)
- 25.3 – Landlith (in lot on Vandever Ave., on way to yard by trestle)
- 26.4 – No. Church Street (at E. 3rd Street, back by EDIS private driveway)
- 26.8 – Wilmington Station (moved to north of station, on east side; Poplar St.)
- 27.2 – Wilmington PTC (parking lot next to BP)
- 27.7 – Beech Street (before viaduct on right hand side; Duncan Street is nearest cross street)
- 28.9 – Shellpot (Access through Ragan; mound of fouled ballast past hwy)









