MTA New York City Transit

Request for Information (RFI) #490082
Use of Drones for Bus Tracking
Addendum No. 2

TO PROSPECTIVE VENDORS:

This Addendum No. 2 additional questions and answers. You are advised to carefully review the details of this Addenda. All details contained in this Addenda are hereby incorporated into and made part of the RFI. Please attach this addendum to your response.

Please note the new RFI due date is now January 31, 2025.

Questions and Answers:

9. Please provide more details on the current operational challenges with tracking the buses' locations. For example:

- Are drivers and maintenance crews moving buses without communicating new locations?
  Answer: Generally, shifters and maintenance crew notify the line supervisor, however, it's not always the case.
- Is it difficult to communicate the location of assigned buses to drivers?
  Answer: Yes
- Manual tracking processes are time-consuming, quickly outdated and labor intensive?
  Answer: Yes

10. What is currently used to track bus locations?

- Binoculars?
  Answer: No
- Walk-arounds?
  Answer: Yes, a yard dispatcher walks around the yard with a tablet to log all bus locations on track sheets in Yard Trek; this is done twice a day, once when all buses are fueled and parked, once before afternoon service.
- Drive-by?
  Answer: No
- Cameras?
  Answer: No
- GPS?
  Answer: Yes, Outdoor only.
- Telemetric?
  Answer: No
- Sensors?
  Answer: No

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11. How is the data currently transmitted and stored?

- Two-way radios?
- Cellular phones?
- Hand-written?
- Spreadsheets (Excel, Google Sheets)?
- Apps (IOS, Android, Windows)?
  Answer: All of the above are used to some degree.

12. Are the technologies mentioned in this article currently in use?
https://bustime.mta.info/wiki/Technology

Answer: Yes, however Bus Time is a customer-facing bus tracking application.

13. Which location tracking devices have you experimented with and what were the issues?

Answer: Location tracking of buses within the depot premises are done manually and are time consuming, not efficient and not always accurate.

14. Is a SaaS Cloud solution acceptable or is the data restricted to on-premises?

Answer: Yes.

15. What components of Esri ArcGIS are NYCT DOB currently using?

Answer: None.

16. Are there specific locations that NYCT DOB desires to track the vehicular traffic patterns?

Answer: No, at this time, drones would only be used inside depots.