

PROTEST PROCEDURES

The following Bid Protest Procedures apply to Federal Transit Administration (FTA) assisted procurements that are competitively solicited. Interested parties must adhere to the following procedures. A protest will be processed in the time frames and structure specified below.

A. PRIOR TO OFFER OPENING

1. Protests concerning a procurement (by a prime contractor or an adversely affected subcontractor) must be in writing and received by WRTA not less than five (5) working days before offer opening unless a different deadline is established in the procurement documents.
2. Upon receipt of that protest, the Administrator will determine if the offer opening should be postponed. If offer opening is postponed, WRTA will notify all prime contractors and subcontractors who have been furnished a copy of the specifications that a protest has been filed and that offer opening is postponed until WRTA has issued its decision. Appropriate addenda will be issued re-scheduling offer opening.
3. Any protest to WRTA may be withdrawn at any time before WRTA has issued its decision.
4. WRTA will respond within three (3) working days of receiving the protest, at least generally, to each material issue raised in the Protest. If the matter requires further evaluation, the Administrator will notify the protesting party in writing (by facsimile and U.S. Mail) of the extended review period. The Administrator's decision on any protest will be in writing and is final.

B. AFTER OFFER OPENING

1. Protests received after an offer opening will be considered only if it concerns an issue, procedure, or other matter that could not have been protested by an offeror prior to the opening. The protest must be in writing and be received by WRTA at least three (3) working days before the conditional award of a contract by the WRTA.
2. Upon receipt of the protest, the Administrator will immediately determine if the award of the contract should be postponed. If it is postponed, WRTA will notify all offerors that a protest has been filed and that award of the contract is postponed until WRTA has issued its decision.
3. A protest to WRTA may be withdrawn at any time before WRTA has issued its decision.
4. WRTA will respond within three (3) working days of receiving the protest, at least generally, to each material issue raised in the Protest. If the matter requires

further evaluation, the Administrator will notify the protesting party in writing (by facsimile and U.S. Mail) of the extended review period. The Administrator's decision on any protest will be in writing and is final.

C. AFTER AWARD

1. Protests received after an award has been made will be considered only if it concerns an issue, procedure or other matter that could not have been protested by an offeror after the opening. The protest must be in writing and received by the WRTA three (3) working days before the execution of the resulting contract.
2. Upon receipt of the protest, the Administrator will immediately determine if the execution of the contract should be postponed. If it is postponed, WRTA will notify all offerors that a protest has been filed and that execution of the contract is postponed until WRTA has issued its decision.
3. A protest to WRTA may be withdrawn at any time before WRTA has issued its decision.
4. WRTA will respond within three (3) working days of receiving the protest, at least generally, to each material issue raised in the Protest. If the matter requires further evaluation, the Administrator will notify the protesting party in writing (by facsimile and U.S. Mail) of the extended review period. The Administrator's decision on any protest will be in writing and is final.

D. APPEALS

1. Except as provided above, there are no further administrative appeals available. In certain circumstances judicial remedies may be available to aggrieved parties.

The WRTA will consider all written protests made within the timelines stated in this policy. Protest submissions should be concise, logically arranged, clearly state the grounds for the protest, and must include at least the following information:

- Name, address, and telephone number of protester.
- Solicitation or contract name and/or number.
- A detailed statement of the legal and factual grounds for the protest, including copies of all relevant documents or information.
- A statement of relief requested.

Protests are to be filed by certified mail, return receipt requested or by personal deliver by 4:30 pm on or before the due date at:

Administrator
Worcester Regional Transit Authority

60 Foster Street
Worcester, MA 01608

If protests are filed by personal delivery, the protestor must obtain a time-stamped copy of the protest from the WRTA's Administration Office as proof of the date and time of the filing of the protest. It is the Protester's sole responsibility to provide said copy at the time of filing.