

**Request for Quote  
to Provide Bus Line Inspection and Post Delivery Buy  
America Audit Services at the  
Gillig Corporation for the  
Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority**

***Bus Line Inspection Services***

LAVTA seeks a qualified firm (Vendor) to provide Bus Line Inspection and Post Delivery Buy America Audit Services in connection with a purchase order LAVTA has issued to Gillig Corporation for the manufacture and delivery of Sixteen (16) 40' BRT-style, low-floor, hybrid buses.

Assembly of the buses will take place at Gillig's manufacturing facility in Livermore, California.

The production is being done in two phases:

- Phase one involves seven (7) 40' BRT Wheels Style, low-floor hybrid buses with production scheduled to begin August 1, 2022, with a tentative completion date of August 30, 2022.
- Phase two involves nine (9) 40' BRT Rapid Style, low-floor hybrid buses with production scheduled to begin August 16, 2022, with a tentative completion date of September 13, 2022.

LAVTA is requesting the Vendor selected have an inspector on-site at Gillig's manufacturing facility throughout the entire project to ensure compliance with technical specifications and quality standards.

The Vendor must provide LAVTA with all necessary FTA documentation required under 49 U.S.C. § 5323(m) and 49 CFR Part 663, including detailed inspection records and a post-delivery buy-America audit report.

LAVTA is seeking inspection services to:

1. Ensure each bus manufactured conforms to LAVTA's technical specifications, industry standards, Gillig's quality standards, and compliance with all federal regulations;
2. Ensure each bus is built to the highest level of reliability and maintainability;
3. Ensure each bus is in full compliance with all FTA regulations stated in 49 CFR 663.37 and Buy America requirements as outlined in 49 CFR 661;
4. Represent LAVTA by providing an experienced bus production line inspection team to be on-site during the manufacturing process;

5. Ensure each bus is as free of defects as possible when delivered to LAVTA;
6. Ensure all aspects required by FTA 49 CFR 663.37 and Buy America requirements are met;
7. Provide, at a minimum, weekly written reports detailing inspection activities, status of each bus, photos, charts, and spreadsheets as appropriate;
8. Ensure any changes be made after the contract award are followed by Gillig during the build.
9. Visually verify the use of looms and proper clamps, especially through the frame and body. Each wire should be protected from abrasion as well as sharp edges; and
10. Visually verify the adhesion, type, and thickness of the corrosion protection in order to provide maximum protection.

### **Uniformity of Component Installations**

The Vendor must ensure care is taken with respect to the alignment, vibration isolations, and proper support of various components.

The Vendor will perform the following tasks:

#### **Task 1: Project Kickoff**

Immediately after receiving a written notice to proceed, the Vendor's Project Manager will contact LAVTA and receive the following information for use in the construction of the inspection records, any pre-inspection meeting(s), and assignment of inspection activities:

Approved equals

Technical specifications

Pre-Award Buy-America Audit Report

Any other information related to this procurement

In addition, the inspection forms to be used in the project shall be customized to meet LAVTA's requirements and standards.

#### **Task 2: Pre-production Off-line Activities**

Prior to the start of production, the Vendor shall review and become familiar with LAVTA's technical specifications and shall discuss technical specifications with LAVTA to determine if the planned in-plant quality assurance activities need to be revised to reflect changes in the production process or to respond to particular concerns expressed by LAVTA.

#### **Task 3: Production Line Monitoring and Inspection**

Prior to the scheduled start of production, the Vendor's inspector will inspect the major components such as the chassis, and verify that they comply with the specifications. Once production has started, each vehicle will be inspected at critical points during the manufacturing process.

### **Production Inspection Points**

- Verification of welding of sub-assemblies as meeting quality standards
- Inspection of critical build-up of sub-assemblies and modular sections prior to joining into larger coach modules
- Identifying and causing repair of hydraulic, compressed air, air conditioning, refrigerant, and fluid leaks
- Verification of torque on critical bolts and fasteners
- Verification of routing of wiring and protection from chafing, abrasion, and sharp edges
- Verification of the integrity of circuit terminals in both application and installation
- Verification of uniformity of component installations, alignment, and support structures
- Verification of alignment of access doors and hinges, floor covering, ducting, interior and exterior panels, moldings, and seat supports
- Verification of proper grade bolts, appropriate type, and application of blind fasteners
- Verification of proper thickness, type, and adhesion of undercoating, sealants, interior as well as exterior paint, and primers
- Verification of proper materials, routing, stress relief, and support of rigid and flexible lines for power steering, transmission, pressure and temperature sensors, coolant, brakes, wheelchair lift primary connections, and manual override systems
- Verification of the proper installation and function of heating and air conditioning piping, sensors, compressor support, and vibration isolation
- Verification of front suspension alignment checks
- With respect to junction and component boxes, verification of proper location, labeling, and integrity of junction boxes for electrical components

- Verification of proper integration of drive train components and supporting electrical, hydraulic, air, and fluid systems
- Verification of the proper installation, alignment and operation of the wheelchair lift/ramp
- Verification of rattle-free installation of barriers and panels
- Verification of easy access to components mounted behind the paneling
- Verification of type and arrangement of passenger seating including wheelchair positions and tie-downs
- Verification of all interior doors for appearance, fit, and function, panels for door operating mechanisms, and that other doors open with or without special tools as specified
- Verification of mounting, clearance, presence, and location of specified stanchions and handholds

Gillig's quality assurance department shall be presented with copies of comments regarding discrepancies noted by the Vendor's inspector. Vendor's inspector will work closely with Gillig and LAVTA to assist in resolving open items.

The Vendor shall have an inspector present throughout the manufacturing process and to conduct a complete final inspection of each unit as required by 49 CFR 663.37 (a). The inspector will monitor the use of materials and components to ensure compliance with the findings of the Pre-Award Buy America audit. Inspector will also visually verify that the construction and operation comply with the technical specifications as required by 49 CFR 663.35(b) and 49 CFR 663.37(a)(2), respectively. Daily logs will be maintained and provided to LAVTA showing these activities.

#### **Task 4: Pre-Delivery Testing**

The Vendor shall conduct several visual and measured inspections in every area of the bus including the undercarriage, engine compartment, interior, and exterior, along with functional tests such as:

- Water Testing for a minimum of 10 consecutive minutes
- HVAC Test
- Wheelchair ramp/lift function test
- Random paint-pull test

At this time, a configuration audit will be performed. The configuration audit shall verify that the actual buses manufactured meet the detailed specifications as required by LAVTA. In addition, a final checklist on each bus shall verify the use of materials and components identified in the Buy-America audit. In accordance with the procedures published by the FTA, a record of these tests will be maintained. Specific elements of the final inspection procedures for LAVTA will include:

## **Interior**

- **Driver Controls:** Verification of accessibility and function of all switches, controls, ankle motion, grouping of non-OEM controls, identification of prime controls, and door control function.
- **Instrumentation:** Verification of location, function and readability of instruments and indicators with the steering wheel in a straight-ahead position.
- **Interior Trim General Requirements:** Verification of absence of inaccessible maintenance areas, protuberances, and sharp or abrasive edges.
- **Trim Panels:** Verification of trim materials, surfaces, carpeting, or panels of textured stainless steel or anodized aluminum, or plastic as specified, verification that painted areas are free of dirt, runs, and orange peel.
- **Exit Signal:** If specified, verification of presence and function of chimes, switch tapes located near interior lighting fixtures with a driver-controlled bypass switch.
- **Inside Mirrors:** Verification of presence and adjustability of inside mirrors and that placement does not obscure right outside mirror.
- **Radio System:** Verification of space for radio, verification of the presence of specified, protected lead as applicable.
- **Windows:** Verification that all windows are distortion-free and contain no scratches, verification of proper opening and closing functions and proper weather sealing, and verification of proper emergency release function.
- **Destination Signs:** Verification of specified signs, decals, and instruction plates, and if specified, verification of presence and function of destination signs on the front and right side of the coach.
- **Wheelchair Ramp:** Verification of accessibility and function of all switches, controls, cycle counters, and safety sensors, verification of level and angles of the ramp, handrails, and barriers, verification of weight requirements of the ramp, and smooth operation of ramp and compliance with ADA standards and regulations.

## **Exterior**

- **Body:** Inspect for fit and sealing, lack of distortion and strain points at fasteners, proper sealing, and overall finish.
- **Rain Gutters:** Verification of installation of rain gutters over the passenger windows and doors; inspection for dams or obstructions in gutters.

- Doors: Inspection of door installation for fit and sealing, check for proper closure and tightness, check for safety control, proper wiring, and line routing.
- Exterior Lighting: Verification of type and function of headlights, marker lamps, turn signal lights, and curb area lighting.
- Outside Mirrors: Verification of specified mirrors and rear field of vision.
- Exhaust Locations: Verification of specified exhaust pipe routing and installation of proper discharge and absence of leakage.
- Bumper Material: Verification of manufacturer, specified color, and material.
- Batteries: Verification of rating of batteries and correct positioning and securements.

### **Engine Compartment**

- Inspect engine and transmission cradle including all sub-components installation; checking for improper line or wire routing; inspect for leaks and possible long-term problem situations.
- Listen for abnormal noises; check for harmonic vibrations in lines, which may require added line support, if found.
- Inspect manufacturer modifications for design and installation integrity and possible warranty conflicts.

### **Road Test**

As part of the final inspection phase, the inspector shall witness the road test, riding the buses and checking for abnormal power train noises and interior rattles as well as observing for proper shift points, acceleration and braking performance, ride quality and appropriate functioning of other systems.

#### **Task 5: Release for Delivery**

The Vendor shall continually monitor production and initiate corrective action for any defects found. The Vendor shall maintain correspondence with appropriate Gillig personnel and maintain discrepancy reports. Prior to the release of each bus, the inspector will verify that any noted defects have been corrected. If not, the Vendor shall obtain the LAVTA's permission to accept the bus with the discrepancy.

#### **Task 6: Post Delivery Audit**

Upon completion of the inspections and delivery of the buses, the Vendor will issue a Post Delivery Report to LAVTA stating that the vehicles comply with the requirements of 49 CFR Part 663. The report will contain a copy of Gillig's self-certification of compliance to FMVSS standards and a Post-Delivery Buy America checklist for each vehicle. As required by the FTA, the inspector shall physically and visually verify each of the components listed on the Buy America component list are actually installed in the bus.

The Post Delivery Report will also contain a copy of a configuration audit. The Vendor's inspector shall confirm that the buses were built in compliance with LAVTA's technical specifications as amended through the Requests for Approved Equals process and that the components identified are actually installed. A copy of this configuration audit will be provided upon project completion as well as all inspector notes of communication completed throughout production.

Vendor will provide a copy of the weekly reports in order to verify that inspectors were present during the manufacturing process. This report will meet the Post Delivery audit requirements of 49 CFR Part 663.

**Project Deliverables**

Throughout the project, LAVTA will receive continuous communication, via website, email, and/or telephone as well as final project documentation upon completion of the inspections. Below is a bulleted list of the deliverables to be received by LAVTA:

- Weekly/Daily reporting via the website, email, and/or telephone as agreed upon during kick-off meeting
- FTA Required Post-Delivery Buy America Audit includes:
  - Post-delivery certifications
  - FMVSS certification
  - Configuration audit
  - Post-delivery buy-America audit checklists
  - Copies of weekly inspection communication reports
  - Inspection booklets "Blue Books" includes:
    - Inspection forms
    - Defect sheets

**Quote for Service:**

<b>Serial #</b>	<b>PM</b>	<b>Length</b>	<b>Model</b>	<b>Mode</b>	<b>QTY</b>	<b>Scheduled Start Day</b>
197933	Dave	40	BRT	Wheels BRT	1	8/1/2022
197934	Dave	40	BRT	Wheels BRT	1	8/8/2022
197935	Dave	40	BRT	Wheels BRT	1	8/9/2022
197936	Dave	40	BRT	Wheels BRT	1	8/10/2022

197937	Dave	40	BRT	Wheels BRT	1	8/11/2022
197938	Dave	40	BRT	Wheels BRT	1	8/12/2022
197939	Dave	40	BRT	Wheels BRT	1	8/15/2022
197940	Dave	40	BRT	Rapid BRT	1	8/16/2022
197941	Dave	40	BRT	Rapid BRT	1	8/17/2022
197942	Dave	40	BRT	Rapid BRT	1	8/18/2022
197943	Dave	40	BRT	Rapid BRT	1	8/19/2022
197944	Dave	29	BRT	Rapid BRT	1	8/22/2022
197945	Dave	29	BRT	Rapid BRT	1	8/23/2022
197946	Dave	29	BRT	Rapid BRT	1	8/24/2022
197947	Dave	29	BRT	Rapid BRT	1	8/25/2022
197948	Dave	29	BRT	Rapid BRT	1	8/26/2022

Prospective Vendors shall provide a quote for a fixed fee per bus. This price must be inclusive of all labor, expenses, and overheads, and will be invoiced upon project completion. LAVTA WILL NOT be invoiced for any additional expenses including travel or labor. The proposed fee shall be based upon the scope of work outlined above. Quotes must be delivered via email to [tedwards@lavta.org](mailto:tedwards@lavta.org) by July 11, 2022 at 2p.m. Pacific Time.

*Tamara Edwards*

Tamara Edwards  
 Director of Finance, Interim Executive Director  
 June 27, 2022