

**METROPOLITAN EXPOSITION - RECREATION COMMISSION**

**RESOLUTION 98-19**

Authorizing Staff to proceed with advertisement and solicitation of bids for the purchase and procurement of a production lighting dimmer system for the Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall, in accordance with the MERC Purchasing Policy and Guidelines.

**The Metropolitan Exposition-Recreation Commission finds:**

1. That on 12/6/97 the production lighting dimmer system at the Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall failed prematurely, prior to the anticipated replacement fiscal year, and
2. That on 12/6/97 staff proceeded to temporarily replace the failed system with a rental system at a cost of \$975.00 per week, and
3. That staff has researched replacements for the system and decided a new dimmer and control system should be purchased this current fiscal year to avoid excessive rental expenditures and assure full lighting capability for events, and
4. That the proposed replacement cost for a new system will be approximately \$200,000.00.

**BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED** that the Commission grants approval for Staff to initiate formal bidding in accordance with the Metropolitan Exposition-Recreation Commission Purchasing Policy and Guidelines, for the procurement of a production lighting dimmer system for the Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall.

Passed by the Commission on March 19, 1998.

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

Daniel B. Cooper, General Counsel

  
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By: Kathleen Pool  
Sr. Assistant Counsel

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Chair

  
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Secretary-Treasurer

## MERC STAFF REPORT

**Agenda Item /Issue:** Initiate formal bidding process for the Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall production lighting dimmer system and waive requirement for Commission award of contract.

**Resolution No. 98-19**

**Date:** March 13 , 1998

### **Background and Analysis:**

On December 6, 1997, the production lighting dimmer system failed at the Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall. The failed system was installed in 1984. The manufacturer of the system went out of business shortly thereafter. In the last two years the system has had many failures, oftentimes jeopardizing productions. In all previous failures, Staff was able to remedy problems with temporary solutions. Following the December 6, failure, Staff was forced to rent a portable dimmer system. This rental system was not intended to replace nor provide capabilities inherent with the original house system. Necessary replacement parts were found to be non-existent, leaving no option but to replace the system.

Staff immediately proceeded to research and compile specifications for a new dimmer system. Staff requests that these resultant bid documents be approved by the Commission, and that the Commission authorize Staff to solicit bids.

### **Financial Considerations:**

The capital funding for the replacement of the dimmer system was scheduled for a future fiscal year. Budgeted funds in the current fiscal year have been adjusted to allow premature acquisition of a new system based on this emergency. Costs otherwise incurred by temporary rental of equipment will be saved by this early purchase. Estimated cost of the new system will be \$200,000.00.

### **Other Considerations:**

Staff is confident that the proposed equipment will meet the requirements of the facility's events in the best manner possible, and will have proven reliability will beyond that of the original system.

### **Recommendations:**

Staff recommends that the Commission approve bid documents as compiled by Staff and further authorize Staff to advertise and solicit bids in accordance with the MERC Purchasing Policy and Guidelines and waive the requirement of Commission approval for the award of the contract for the Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall dimmer system replacement, and authorize the General Manager to enter in to said contract contingent upon receipt of a responsive and responsible bid in accordance with the bid document and within budget parameters.