



**City of Racine, Wisconsin**  
**Agenda BRIEFING MEMORADUM**

**AGENDA DATE:**

September 9, 2024 – Finance and Personnel

**SUBJECT:**

Communication sponsored by Alder Horton, requesting permission to award a sole source three-year contract, 2024187, with Tolemi to purchase BuildingBlocks software.

**PREPARED BY:**

Adele Edwards, Chief Information Officer

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

The Management Information Services (MIS) Department is providing notice that we are engaging in a sole source three-year contract with Tolemi to purchase BuildingBlocks software.

**PROJECT BACKGROUND & ANALYSIS:**

The MIS purchased Tolemi - BuildingBlocks 3 years ago and we need to renew our licensing and support contract. We are bringing this before Council because BuildingBlocks has become one of our core systems.

BuildingBlocks is a web-facing data aggregation and analytical tool. City Development was the champion for the interdepartmental use especially with the departments involved with the RENTS Initiative. With its public facing portal, we have empowered renters by providing a history of code compliance issues and internal departments with data pertaining to code violations, police calls for service, tax delinquency, property assessment, along with other data points as needed, for each property in the city. Staff from various departments (including, but not limited to: City Development, Neighborhood Enhancement, Health, Police, Fire, Customer Service, Attorneys, and DPW) can strategically analyze properties that are likely to become nuisance properties and work closely with owners of properties to try to increase compliance and reduce court appearances. Staff are also able to plan for new initiatives and to analyze the effectiveness of current initiatives. This has helped us to achieve our land banking and homeownership goals. Internally, it greatly improves the efficiency of staff by allowing staff to visualize all pertinent information in one system, rather than having data sets in many places.

It is a \$78,750 agreement for 3 years. The next renewal would not come until 2027. BuildingBlocks enables easy and advanced spatial analysis, smart linking that identifies potentially related owners through shell LLC's, and automated reports that are easily shared among departments.

**BUDGETARY IMPACT:**

This is a three-year contract with a total cost of \$78,750. Funds are available in account #70113-54500 for FY 2024.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

The Chief Information Officer be authorized to execute and sign contract, 2024187, with Tolemi to purchase BuildingBlocks software.