

## Transportation Committee

Meeting date: June 24, 2013

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of June 26, 2013

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**Subject:** Central Corridor Light Rail Transit (Green Line): Central Station Vertical Circulation Contract

**District(s), Member(s):** All

**Policy/Legal Reference:** Metropolitan Council Procedure 3-3c (Requires Council Approval over \$1 million), 2013 Session Laws, Chapter 127, Section 61

**Staff Prepared/Presented:** Brian Lamb, General Manager, 612-349-7510  
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**Division/Department:** Metro Transit / Central Corridor Project Office

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### Proposed Action

Authorize the Regional Administrator to:

- Award and execute a contract with the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, PCL Construction Services, Inc., for the Central Station Vertical Circulation Project at a cost of \$1,769,620.
- Exempt the anticipated change order, funded by the City of St. Paul, for inclusion of public art in the project from the 5% delegated change order authority.

### Background

Central Corridor Project Office (CCPO), Metro Transit and City of St. Paul have developed plans to connect the 5<sup>th</sup> Street sidewalk to the skyway spanning the Central Station between Cedar and Minnesota Streets in downtown St. Paul via stair and elevator. This contract includes constructing the combination stair and elevator building.

Metropolitan Council Business Item 2013-134 recently authorized the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute: 1) a non-binding Memorandum of Understanding with the City of St. Paul and the St. Paul Housing and Redevelopment Authority for the purpose of facilitating redevelopment of the Central Station Block in downtown St. Paul; 2) an easement agreement with the St. Paul Housing and Redevelopment Authority for bus waiting improvements; and 3) an operations and maintenance agreement with the City of St. Paul for a stair and elevator tower. Metro Transit and the City have negotiated to split the approximate \$75,000 annual operations and maintenance cost of the new stair and elevator building.

Five (5) bids were received and opened publicly on June 6, 2013, and ranged in value from \$1,769,620 to \$1,842,000. The engineer's estimate for this work was \$1,675,011. After a review of the bids and comparison with the engineer's estimate, staff concluded that the PCL Construction bid is fair and reasonable. This conclusion is based on the competitiveness and narrow range of the bids to one another. A 15.5% Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) goal was assigned to the project. The Office of Equal Opportunities (OEO) reviewed the three lowest responsive bids, and has determined the low, responsive bidder has passed the DBE review.

Metropolitan Council Procedure 3-3 (Expenditures) permits a change order authority of 5% of the contract value for construction projects over \$1 million. In negotiations with the City regarding the operations and maintenance agreement for the stair elevator

building, Metro Transit has agreed to the inclusion of public art into the building provided the City fully funds the capital cost and maintenance of the artwork. The scope of the artwork is not yet finalized and the cost of this anticipated change order is unknown. CCPO is recommending this change order total be exempt from the 5% change order authority for this project given full funding from St. Paul.

### **Rationale**

There are few public access entries into the skyway system in downtown St. Paul, making this project a benefit to the community, including Green Line, other transit riders, and the disability community who have advocated for this project. Construction will begin prior to Fall 2013 to allow for completion of the project before Green Line revenue service begins in mid-2014.

### **Funding**

Funding in the amount of \$800,000 is from a federal grant project #62214, received by Metro Transit, \$969,620 funding from the Central Corridor Light Rail Transit Project Contingency Budget.

### **Known Support / Opposition**

There is no known opposition. The disability community is a strong supporter of this project. The 2013 State Legislature passed a law calling for Metropolitan Council to construct the Central Station Vertical Circulation Project.