

Transportation Committee

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of September 24, 2014

Subject: METRO Blue Line Light Rail Transit (BLRT) Extension Project: Award Engineering Services Consultant Contract (14P061) for the BLRT Extension – Minneapolis, Golden Valley, Robbinsdale, Crystal and Brooklyn Park

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute an engineering services contract with Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. for engineering consultant services for the METRO Blue Line Light Rail Transit (BLRT) Extension (known as the Bottineau Transitway during earlier planning phases) Project in an amount not to exceed \$110,046,172.

Summary of Committee Discussion/Questions

Mark Fuhrmann presented the item. Councilmember Brimeyer asked for clarification on the bid opening process and whether the cost proposals from the two other proposers were opened. Fuhrmann stated that this is a Brooks Act procurement and the other cost proposals were not opened. Councilmember Brimeyer also asked whether the four phases of the contract required separate action by the Transportation Committee. Fuhrmann clarified and answered no, the committee will be notified of the NTP but does not need to take separate action.

Councilmember Duininck asked whether there was thought of bringing in an oversight consultant as other projects such as Green Line Extension (SWLRT) had. Fuhrmann responded not at this time, as BLRT is less structurally intensive than SWLRT. Councilmember Schreiber asked if the consultant will be responsible for negotiations with BNSF in the railroad right of way. Fuhrmann answered that Kimley-Horn will provide technical assistance to Project Staff and the railroad on the design, but Met Council staff will be performing all negotiations.

Motion made by Councilmember Schreiber, seconded by Councilmember Rodriguez and passed.

Non-consent to Council.

Transportation Committee

Meeting date: September 17, 2014

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of September 24, 2014

Subject: METRO Blue Line Light Rail Transit (BLRT) Extension Project: Award Engineering Services Consultant Contract (14P061) for the BLRT Extension – Minneapolis, Golden Valley, Robbinsdale, Crystal and Brooklyn Park

District(s), Member(s): All

Policy/Legal Reference: Procurement of Professional Services

Staff Prepared/Presented: Brian J. Lamb, General Manager, 612-349-7510
Mark W. Fuhrmann, Deputy General Manager, 651-602-1942
Chris Beckwith, CCLRT Acting Project Director, 651-602-1433

Division/Department: Metro Transit / BLRT Extension LRT Project Office

Proposed Action

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Background

The Engineering Services Consultant will provide engineering services for the BLRT Extension, which includes:

- Preliminary Engineering during Project Development
- Engineering (Final Design)
- Design Support Services during Construction

Three teams responded to the Council's request for proposals. An evaluation panel representing project partners evaluated the proposals and ranked the Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. proposal as the most advantageous for the Council.

The scope of work includes all the above activities with the recommended engineering team to provide engineering continuity throughout project delivery.

Rationale

On August 22, 2014, the Council received FTA approval for entry into Project Development which authorizes design of the BLRT Extension to begin as an FTA New Starts project. Execution of the Engineering Services Consultant contract is needed to begin the design starting with the Project Development phase.

Funding

Funding in the amount of \$46 million has been committed for Project Development from the following:

- \$27.6 million in Counties Transit Improvement Board funds
- \$17.4 million in Hennepin County Regional Railroad Authority funds
- \$1 million in State Bond funds

The above funding amounts are available to complete Project Development including, but not limited to, Preliminary Engineering provided under this contract.

Expenditures for Preliminary Engineering during Project Development are eligible as local match to future federal grants.

Known Support / Opposition

Project partners participated in the evaluation and ranked the Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. proposal as the most advantageous for the Council. There is no known opposition.