

Transportation Committee

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of October 28, 2015

Subject: Green Line Rail Signal System – Additional Functionality

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute a sole source contract with Siemens Industry, Inc. for an amount not to exceed \$1,740,000 for additional functionality to the signal system on the METRO Green Line.

Summary of Committee Discussion/Questions

Committee discussion and questions focused on the extent to which the results of this contract will benefit the existing Blue Line and anticipated Green Line Extension projects. Staff reported that the Blue Line would benefit from similar software improvements under a separately-funded capital project. The Green Line Extension is designed to have a similar level of signal system technology, based on lessons learned from the Green Line.

The Committee also discussed the sole source procurement. Staff reported that the decision to pursue a sole source contract is justified by the fact that Siemens Industry competed for their original work on the Green Line, and that it serves the Council's best interest to gain the efficiencies from the proposed new work in a timely way while protecting warranties on the original work in the process.

A motion was made by CM Munt to approve this item, and was seconded by CM Letofsky. Motion carried. Non-consent to Council.

Transportation Committee

Meeting date: October 12, 2015

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of October 28, 2015

Subject: Green Line Rail Signal System – Additional Functionality

District(s), Member(s): All

Policy/Legal Reference: MN Statutes, Section 473.399 and Met Council 3-3 Expenditures Policy

Staff Prepared/Presented: Brian Lamb, General Manager, 612-349-7510

Christine Beckwith, Project Director, CCLRT Project, 612-373-3889

Dan Soler, Project Director, BLRT Project, 612-373-5371

Mark Benedict, Director, Rail Systems Maintenance, 612-341-5627

Division/Department: Metro Transit / Central Corridor LRT Project and Rail Systems Maintenance

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute a sole source contract with Siemens Industry, Inc. for an amount not to exceed \$1,740,000 for additional functionality to the signal system on the METRO Green Line.

Background

In the first year of METRO Green Line operations, Rail Operations and Rail Systems Maintenance has identified issues with the LRT signal system, including performance issues which restrict rail operations efficiency or negatively impact traffic flow in certain areas along the Green Line.

The scope of the proposed contract work is primarily to modify software programming of the LRT signal system, with associated hardware changes to local control panel indicators, traffic signal interfaces, and wiring/cabling as necessary. This work will add traffic locking capacity to give Rail Operations greater control over bi-directional movements for maintenance and emergency situations, and signal interfaces and indicators to address performance issues at certain locations.

Siemens Industry, Inc. was chosen as a sole source vendor because they were the Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) and provider of the Green Line LRT signal system. Contracting with Siemens Industry will provide uniform, consistent software programming and will preserve the warranty on their original work.

Rationale

The proposed LRT signal system modifications will improve LRT system performance during maintenance and service disruptions, and improve traffic flow for LRT, vehicular traffic, and pedestrians near six station locations in Minneapolis and on the University of Minnesota campus.

Funding

The Central Corridor LRT Project and Rail Systems Maintenance departments have available funds for this work.

Known Support / Opposition

No known opposition.