

## Transportation Committee

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of November 18, 2015

<b>Subject:</b> Authorization to Award Orange Line BRT Architectural/Engineering Contract
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### Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute a contract with HNTB for design and construction support services for the Orange Line Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) project for a cost of \$6,748,535.

### Summary of Committee Discussion/Questions

Christina Morrison, Senior Planner with Metro Transit's BRT/Small Starts project office provided a presentation updating the Council members on Orange line project progress over the past several months since the previous presentation on July 13th. Jim Harwood, Lead Project Manager with Metro Transit Engineering and Facilities, then reviewed the business item related to the award of the Architectural and Engineering Contract. One question was asked by a committee member.

Councilmember Barber noted that we were reviewing multiple options for alignment of Knox Avenue in Bloomington and the station in Burnsville and asked how far we would progress multiple designs before settling on a preferred option. Ms. Morrison responded that Metro Transit expects the preferred Burnsville station location to be recommended by our local project partners by the end of this year. She also stated that Metro Transit won't move forward with a preferred alignment option at Knox Avenue until after the environmental review is completed and discussions on land acquisition can proceed which is anticipated in spring of 2016.

A motion by Councilmember Dorfman was seconded by Councilmember Letofsky and passed unanimously. **Non-consent to Council.**

## Transportation Committee3

Meeting date: November 9, 2015

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of November 18, 2015

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**District(s), Member(s):** District 5 – Steve Elkins, District 7 – Gary Cunningham, District 8 – Cara Letofsky, District 15 – Steven Chavez

**Policy/Legal Reference:** Council Expenditure Policy 3-3, Procurement of Goods and Services

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

Charles Carlson, Sr. Manager, BRT/Small Starts Office, 612/349-7639

Jim Harwood, Lead Project Manager, E&F, 612-349-7339

**Division/Department:** Metro Transit BRT/Small Starts

### Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute a contract with HNTB for design and construction support services for the Orange Line Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) project for a cost of \$6,748,535.

### Background

The METRO Orange Line is a 17 mile highway BRT project along I-35W connecting the cities of Minneapolis, Richfield, Bloomington and Burnsville, with a future extension to Lakeville. All-day, frequent bidirectional service will complement local and express bus routes in the I-35W corridor, providing competitive running times for station-to-station trips and a new option for reverse-commute markets. The Orange Line will serve ten at-grade stations and one elevated station (Lake Street).

The consultant will provide architectural and engineering services for the Orange Line BRT project. This contract will be for the design and construction support services of proposed improvements along the corridor including new stations, modifications to existing stations, new BRT guideway (including highway bridges at 12<sup>th</sup> Street in downtown Minneapolis and Knox Avenue and I-494 in Richfield and Bloomington), technology and fare collection systems, and other capital improvements required to operate the Orange Line. The Lake Street station is not included in this contract as it is being pursued in coordination with several major roadway and bridge projects as part of the 35W Transit/Access Project in partnership with MnDOT, Hennepin County and the City of Minneapolis.

Two proposals were received and reviewed by the Evaluation Panel and the proposal from HNTB was determined to be in the best interest of the Council. The proposal has passed the OEO review for DBE participation in the contract.

### Rationale

The execution of design and construction service contracts in excess of \$500,000 requires Council approval.

### Funding

Project funding is authorized and available for the first phase of this contract within project 62405. This contract will have phased Notice to Proceeds consistent with the requirements of the FTA Small Starts

program and the availability of funding from FTA, CTIB, Hennepin County, Dakota County and other funding partners.

**Known Support / Opposition**

There is no known opposition to this project.

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