

Transportation Committee

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of June 12, 2019

Subject: Orange Line BRT TH-494 and Knox Avenue Underpass

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize award and execution of construction contract 19P029 with CS McCrossan in the amount of \$24,426,017.51, contingent upon execution of the Orange Line Small Starts Grant, for construction of the Orange Line I-494/Knox Avenue Transitway project.

Summary of Committee Discussion/Questions

Metro Transit BRT Projects Director Charles Carlson and Engineering and Facilities Lead Project Manager Jim Harwood presented this item. Council Member Chamblis asked about the engagement and if there was any opposition. Mr. Harwood said the engagement has been ongoing since 2014 and there is support from the cities, counties, and that he knows of no opposition.

Motion by Cummings, seconded by Fredson. Motion carried.

Transportation Committee

Meeting date: June 10, 2019

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of June 12, 2019

Subject: Orange Line BRT TH-494 and Knox Avenue Underpass

District(s), Member(s): District 5 (Cummings), District 7 (Lilligren), District 8 (Muse), District 15 (Sterner)

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

Staff Prepared/Presented: Wes Kooistra, General Manager, 612-349-7510
Charles Carlson, Director, BRT Projects, 612-349-7639
Jim Harwood, Lead Project Manager, E&F, 612-349-7339

Division/Department: Metro Transit- Engineering and Facilities and BRT Projects

Proposed Action

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Background

Orange Line project construction is split into three separate major construction contracts. One of the three is to construct a transit only underpass of Knox Avenue at I-494 as part of the Orange Line guideway. This construction contract includes construction of utilities, an underpass structure, retaining walls, roadway and other improvements just west of the I-494/35W interchange.

An invitation for bids was issued on March 29th, 2019. On May 2, 2019 five bids were received and publicly opened. The low bid was offered by CS McCrossan in the amount of \$24,426,017.51. The Office of Equal Opportunity set a DBE participation goal on the project at 15%. CS McCrossan's bid committed to 17% utilization. Procurement staff have determined the low bid submitted by McCrossan is responsive and responsible. As noted above, contract execution will follow grant receipt.

Rationale

Execution of a construction contract exceeding \$2,500,000 requires Council approval.

Thrive Lens Analysis

METRO Orange Line BRT supports Thrive outcomes in outcomes including livability, prosperity, and equity by providing new access to economic and personal opportunity through the I-35W corridor.

Funding

This action is subject to executing the Orange Line Small Starts Grant currently under final review by the US Department of Transportation. The Council approved these funds into the Authorized Capital Program through the 2019 Carryforward budget amendment, item 2019-30JT. Additionally, the Council has authorized the \$74.08 million grant agreement through item 2019-5. Through these actions, the federal funds will be available upon grant execution, enabling contract award.

Known Support / Opposition

There is no known opposition.