

Transportation Committee

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of March 24, 2021

Subject: METRO D Line – Station Pylon Contract Award

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to award and execute contract 19P385A with ASC Acquisition Co./DBA Albrecht Sign Company for the fabrication and delivery of station pylons for BRT and enhanced bus stops at a cost not to exceed \$2,010,710, with options for future purchases.

Summary of Committee Discussion/Questions

Metro Transit BRT Project Manager Shahin Khazrajafari presented this item. Council Member Cummings asked about maintenance responsibility and the manufacturer's warranty. Khazrajafari answered the contract requires the fabricator to provide a 3-year warranty on every pylon delivered.

Motion by Cummings, seconded by Chamblis. Motion carried.

Transportation Committee

Meeting date: March 22, 2021

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of March 24, 2021

Subject:	METRO D Line – Station Pylon Contract Award
District(s), Member(s):	District 2 (Chamblis); District 5 (Cummings); District 7 (Lilligren); District 8 (Muse)
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 Katie Roth, Assistant Director, BRT Projects, 612-349-7772 Shahin Khazrajafari, Project Manager, D Line, 612-349-7764
Division/Department:	Metro Transit / BRT Projects

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Background

Bus rapid transit stations on the METRO system feature a signature station marker “pylon”. These are purchased directly by the Council and provided to project construction contractors for installation. The previous contract in place for arterial BRT shelters and pylons expired in January 2020. The new station pylon procurement contract will provide the ability to purchase pylons and suspended horizontal signs for the D Line, future BRT expansion, and replacement needs on the existing network.

This is a finished goods contract, for the selected manufacturer to produce shop drawings and fabricate the pylons. The new contract will include a base (funded) order for 70 pylons and 2 horizontal signs plus future options for up to 231 additional pylons and 6 additional suspended horizontal signs over a five-year contract horizon. The base order consists of: 68 pylons, and two suspended horizontal signs for the D Line; and 2 pylons for enhanced bus stops on Lake Street at I-35W

The Invitation for Bids was advertised on January 22, 2021. There were sixteen plan holders and six identified as woman, minority, veteran or disadvantaged business enterprises. A pre-bid meeting was hosted by Council staff that outlined the solicitation requirements, discussed project specifications and responded to plan holder inquires. Procurement facilitated a public bid opening on February 23, 2021 and two bids were received. The Office of Equal Opportunity did not set a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) for this contract. Pylon installation will occur through the D Line construction package, which includes 15% DBE commitment.

Rationale

The two bids received were \$2,010,710 and \$2,133,160. ASC Acquisition Co./DBA Albrecht Sign Company, was the low, responsive, and responsible bidder and is recommended for award. The execution of a goods contract in excess of \$500,000 requires Council approval. A same week Council action is requested to ensure timely fabrication and delivery of the pylons for the D Line construction in 2021.

Thrive Lens Analysis

The pylon is a key component of BRT station design. It provides accessible, real-time transit information, and provides for a higher quality service. Investment in high-quality transportation options in the corridors with highest ridership will advance the Thrive outcome of prosperity, by making the region more economically competitive through increased workers' access to employment, and support to employers by increasing available workforce with affordable, convenient transportation.

The D Line station pylon contract advances the Thrive outcome of Equity by investing in a transit corridor serving several areas of concentrated poverty where more than fifty percent of the residents are people of color. Nearly three-quarters of Route 5 riders identify as Black, Indigenous, or people of color (BIPOC). This investment will contribute to providing riders with a more reliable service and experience.

The proposed action advances the stewardship outcome by delivering BRT network improvements in a cost-effective and efficient manner.

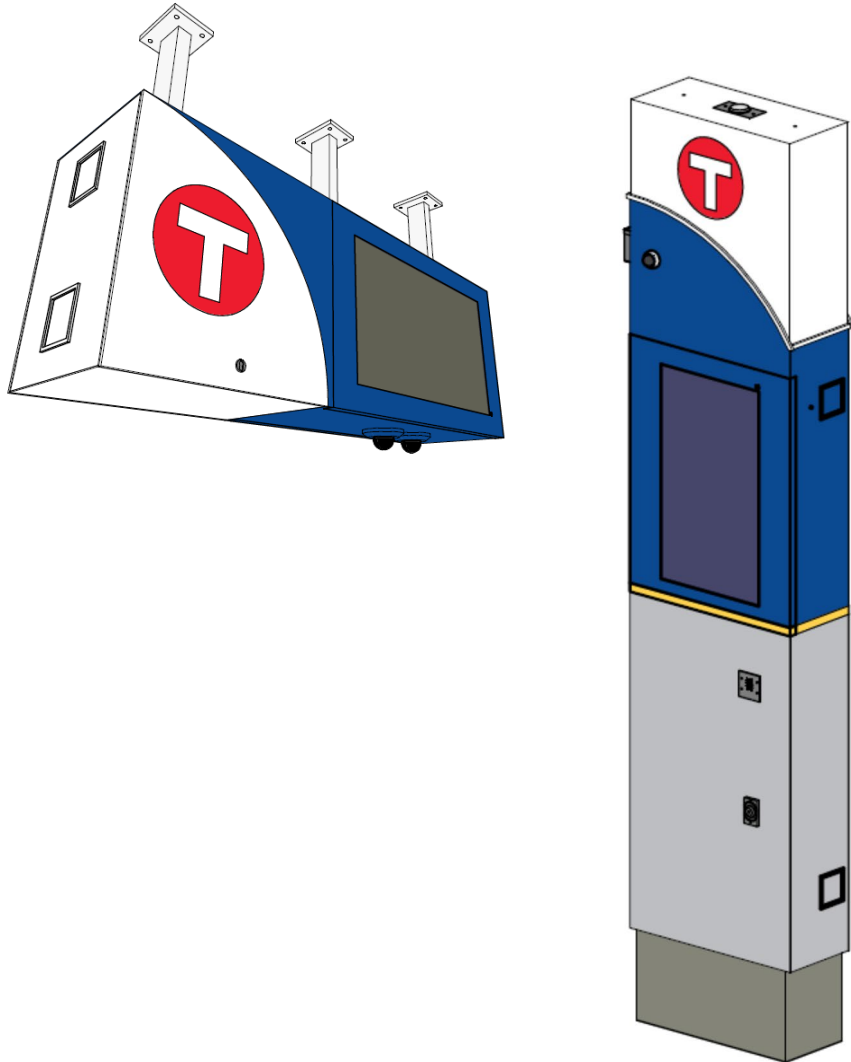
Funding

Funding for the base order is authorized and available in project 62800, for D Line participation in the amount of \$1,954,260, and in project 62405, for Orange Line participation in the amount of \$56,450.

Known Support / Opposition

There is no known opposition to this contract.

2021-69 SW: METRO D Line Station Pylon Contract Award



- New 5-year contract with a base order plus future options
- Base order of 70 pylons and 2 suspended horizontal signs
 - 68 pylons and 2 horizontal signs for the D Line
 - 2 pylons for enhanced bus stops on Lake St. at I-35W
- Options for up to 231 additional pylons and 6 additional horizontal signs
 - Options will vary in quantity and delivery schedule
- 2 bids received on February 23, 2021
 - Bids received were \$2,010,710, and \$2,133,160
 - Low bidder is ASC Acquisition CO./DBA Albrecht Sign Company

Pylon Design/Production History & Lessons Learned

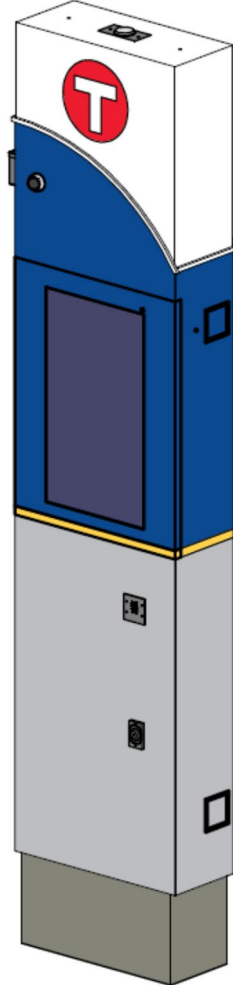
1st Gen.
(A Line)



2nd Gen.
(C Line)

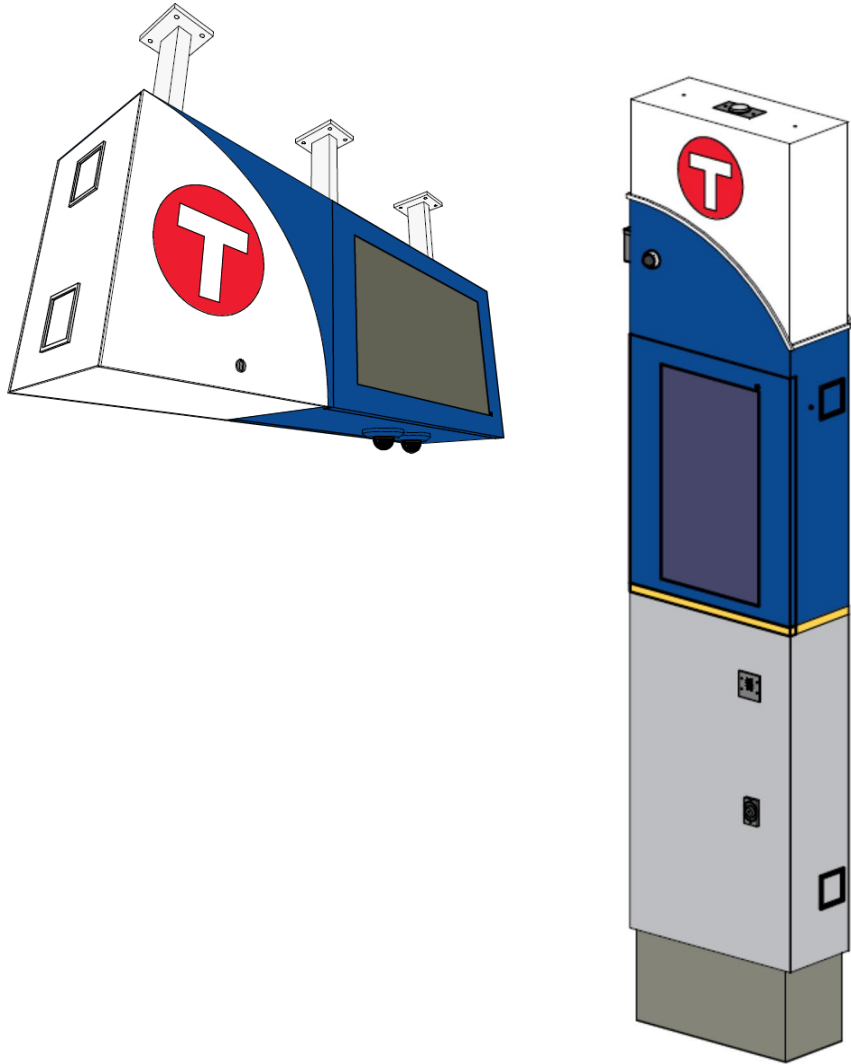


3rd Gen.
(D Line)



- Iterative improvements based on feedback from maintaining departments
- Notable 2nd generation design modifications:
 - Additional ventilation to reduce heat loading
 - Larger pylon structure with lower panel access, to integrate communications enclosure, eliminating the need for an additional cabinet
 - Improved internal structure and foundation for additional stability and structural integrity
- Notable 3rd generation design modifications:
 - New monitor style with front access for easier maintenance and repair
 - Improved protection from insect intrusion
 - Improved pylon exterior attachment process for easier replacement

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