

## Transportation Committee

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of April 14, 2021

**Subject:** METRO D Line – Station Shelter Contract Award

### Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to award and execute contract 19P385B with Duo-Gard Industries, Inc. for the fabrication and delivery of station shelters for bus rapid transit (BRT) and enhanced bus stops at a cost not to exceed \$2,225,987, with options for future purchases.

### Summary of Committee Discussion/Questions

Metro Transit BRT Project Manager Shahin Khazrajafari presented this item. Council Member Chamblis asked about the enhanced bus stop amenities for Hennepin Avenue. BRT Projects Assistant Director Katie Roth said these stops are being upgraded currently through coordination with the City of Minneapolis as Hennepin Avenue is reconstructed. Stops will be upgraded with shelters and very similar features as BRT, but without fare collection equipment and features specific to BRT operations. She added that the stations will be upgraded further with BRT-specific features as part of future E Line implementation.

Motion by Chamblis, seconded by Cummings. Motion carried.

## Transportation Committee

Meeting date: April 12, 2021

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of April 14, 2021

<b>Subject:</b>	METRO D Line – Station Shelters, Contract 19P385B
<b>District(s), Member(s):</b>	District 2 (Chamblis); District 5 (Cummings); District 7 (Lilligren); District 8 (Muse)
<b>Policy/Legal Reference:</b>	FM 14-2 - Expenditures for the Procurement of Goods and Services Policy
<b>Staff Prepared/Presented:</b>	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
<b>Division/Department:</b>	Metro Transit / BRT Projects

### Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to award and execute contract 19P385B with Duo-Gard Industries, Inc. for the fabrication and delivery of station shelters for bus rapid transit (BRT) and enhanced bus stops at a cost not to exceed \$2,225,987, with options for future purchases. A same week Council action is requested to ensure timely fabrication and delivery of the shelters for the D Line construction in 2021.

### Background

The previous contract in place for arterial BRT shelters and pylons expired in January 2020. The new station shelter procurement contract will provide the ability to purchase shelters for the D Line, enhanced bus stops, future BRT expansion, and replacement needs on the existing network. Under this contract, Duo-Gard Industries, Inc. will produce shop drawings and fabricate the shelters. The new contract will include a base (funded) order for 78 shelters plus future options for up to 200 additional shelters over a five-year contract period. The base order consists of 60 shelters for the D Line; eight shelters for enhanced bus stops along Lake Street and Hennepin Avenue; and 10 spare shelters.

The Request for Proposals was advertised on December 8, 2020. There were 18 plan holders; five architecture and engineering firms, eight suppliers, and five plan rooms. Six plan holders identified as woman, minority, veteran, or disadvantaged business enterprises. A pre-proposal meeting was hosted by Council staff that outlined the proposal requirements, discussed project specifications, and responded to plan holder inquires. Proposals were due on January 12, 2021 and one proposal was received. Procurement staff did not find any indication that the Council's specifications were restrictive and determined there was adequate competition for this project.

The Office of Equal Opportunity (OEO) set a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) goal of nine percent for this contract.

OEO has evaluated Duo Gard Industries, Inc's bid and determined their good faith efforts to meet the DBE goal were acceptable.

## **Rationale**

The proposal received is in the amount of \$2,225,987. Duo-Gard was the low, responsive, and responsible proposer and is recommended for award. The execution of a contract in excess of \$500,000 requires Council approval.

## **Thrive Lens Analysis**

The shelter is a key component of BRT station design. In addition to providing protection from the elements, it includes additional amenities such as seating, heat, light, and security, 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 shelter 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 (D Line) in the amount of \$1,840,765, with additional base order funding in projects 62408 (Ladders of Opportunity), 62801 (Downtown Minneapolis Hennepin Avenue Customer Facility Improvements) and 62405 (Orange Line).

## **Known Support / Opposition**

There is no known opposition to this contract.