

# Committee Report

Transportation Committee



**Committee Meeting Date:** February 13, 2023

**For the Metropolitan Council:** February 22, 2023

## Business Item: 2023-14

Master Contracts for Arterial BRT Section 106 Consultation Services, Contract 22P322

### Proposed Action

That the Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute Contract 22P322A with 106 Group Ltd., and Contract 22P322B with Mead & Hunt, Inc., for Section 106 consultation services in the amount of \$550,000 each, for a total not to exceed value of \$1,100,000.

### Summary of Transportation Committee Discussion/Questions

Metro Transit Arterial BRT Environmental Compliance Lead Adam Smith presented this item. There were no questions or comments from Council members.

Motion by Fredson, seconded by Chamblis. Motion carried. Consent to Council.



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<b>District(s), Member(s):</b>	All
<b>Policy/Legal Reference:</b>	FM 14-2 - Expenditures for the Procurement of Goods, Services, and Real Estate Policy
<b>Staff Prepared/Presented:</b>	Lesley Kandaras, Interim General Manager, 612-349-7513 Nick Thompson, Deputy General Manager, 612-349-7507 Katie Roth, Director, Arterial BRT, 612-349-7772 Adam Smith, Environmental Compliance Lead, Arterial BRT, 612-349-7160
<b>Division/Department:</b>	Metro Transit / Arterial BRT

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### Background

Over the next five years, Metro Transit anticipates planning efforts to begin on multiple projects that will use or seek federal funding, including upcoming arterial BRT projects such as the METRO G and H lines. Consulting services are needed on these projects to complete the required Section 106 historic resource evaluation process in coordination with the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO).

To date, Section 106 consultation services have been procured on a project-by-project basis for arterial BRT projects. By seeking to award two master contracts for Section 106 services, Metro Transit staff aims to minimize future administrative effort for future Section 106 efforts, allowing greater flexibility and improved schedule efficiency as emergent needs for consultation support are identified.

The Request for Proposals was advertised on October 26, 2022. A pre-proposal meeting was hosted by Council staff that outlined the solicitation requirements, discussed project specifications, and responded to plan holder inquires. There were twenty-two registered plan holders, nine of the plan holders identified as minority, woman, small, veteran, or disadvantaged business enterprises. The Council received four proposals on December 13, 2022, to be evaluated for the consideration of award and used proposer quality, proposer qualifications, experience, and price. The evaluation panel reached consensus that the proposals submitted by 106 Group Ltd., and Mead & Hunt, Inc., are the most advantageous to the Council.

## **Rationale**

Authorization to award and execute Section 106 consultation services master contracts will allow Metro Transit staff to issue work orders on an as-needed basis to satisfy planned and emergent Section 106 needs, supporting the efficient and timely advancement of planned arterial BRT projects through critical regulatory requirements associated with FTA funding. The execution of a professional services contract that exceeds \$500,000 requires Council approval.

## **Thrive Lens Analysis**

Awarding master contracts will support the implementation of planned and future arterial BRT projects, which will upgrade service along high-ridership bus routes within the region. Planned arterial BRT projects will advance the Thrive outcome of Equity by significantly expanding transit access for BIPOC communities to jobs and opportunity. Investment in high-quality transportation options in these corridors 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.

In awarding master contracts to cover multiple projects over five years, the proposed action advances the Thrive outcome of Stewardship by reducing future administrative effort and time associated with the procurement process for future Section 106 consultation needs.

## **Funding**

Funding will be authorized in future Council capital budgets. Work orders will only be executed after Council budget authority has been approved.

## **Small Business Inclusion**

The Office of Equity and Equal Opportunity (OEEO) set a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) goal of eight percent (8%). OEEO determined that the firms being recommended for award met the DBE requirements of this contract.

