

Committee Report

Transportation Committee



Committee Meeting Date: February 27, 2023

For the Metropolitan Council: March 8, 2023

Business Item: 2023-50

METRO B Line – Amendment 1 to Engineering and Construction Administration Contract 20P322

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute Amendment 1 to contract 20P322 with Kimley-Horn & Associates, Inc. for engineering and construction administration services for the METRO B Line BRT project, to increase the contract value by \$1,649,389, for a revised contract not to exceed amount of \$11,407,899.

Summary of Transportation Committee Discussion/Questions

There were no questions or comments from Council Members.

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



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| District(s), Member(s): | District 6 (Pacheco), District 7 (Lilligren), District 8 (Muse), District 14 (Fredson), District 13 (Lee) |
| Policy/Legal Reference: | FM 14-2 – Expenditures for the Expenditure of Goods, Services and Real Estate Policy |
| Staff Prepared/Presented: | Lesley Kandaras, Interim General Manager, 612-349-7517 Nick Thompson, Deputy General Manager, 612-349-7507 Katie Roth, Director, Arterial BRT, 612-349-7772 Frank Alarcon, Project Manager, BRT, 612-349-7692 |
| Division/Department: | Metro Transit / Arterial BRT |

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Background

Contract 20P322 with Kimley-Horn includes engineering and construction administration services for the B Line corridor. The additional scope and contract extension associated with this amendment are the result of two changes to the B Line project resulting from Metro Transit's ongoing coordination with partner agencies along the corridor: a revised construction packaging approach and the addition of locally requested improvements along the corridor.

The initial scope for this contract assumed preparation of documents for one construction package to construct the entire B Line project. In early 2022, Metro Transit, with input from agency partners, made the decision to split the B Line project into two construction packages, with Hiawatha Avenue being the dividing line between the two packages, known as the "East Package" and the "West Package". This approach has enabled the project to avoid schedule delays while allowing enough time to resolve issues and incorporate local improvements along Lake Street west of Hiawatha Avenue. Bidding the project construction in two packages rather than one involves additional effort not included in the contract's base scope.

Local improvements requested by Hennepin and Ramsey counties will be constructed by the B Line's construction contractors with funds provided by the two counties via interagency agreements. These local improvements were not anticipated at the time of 20P322 contract award. The local improvements, which include traffic signal, safety, and multimodal transportation upgrades, will complement the B Line project, and constructing them at the same time as the B Line will minimize disruption to surrounding communities. As part of this contract amendment,

resources will be added to contract 20P322 for Kimley-Horn to complete the design of local improvements in the West Package and provide support services during construction of local improvements in the East Package.

Rationale

The amendment of a professional services contract exceeding 10% of the original authorized value requires Council approval.

Thrive Lens Analysis

The B Line will upgrade and substantially replace Route 21, Metro Transit's second-highest ridership bus route. Investment in high-quality transportation options in the Route 21 corridor 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 B Line project and county-funded improvements along the corridor advance the Thrive outcome of Equity by investing in a transit corridor serving communities of color. More than half of Route 21 riders identify as Black, Indigenous, or people of color (BIPOC). Investment in the B Line will provide riders with faster service and a more comfortable waiting and riding experience, and county-funded improvements along the corridor will improve safety and transit operations.

The proposed action also advances the Thrive outcome of Stewardship by planning for METRO B Line corridor improvements efficiently with regional partnership from Hennepin County, Ramsey County, the City of Minneapolis, and the City of Saint Paul.

Funding

Funding for the full amount of this amendment is available and authorized in project 62802. Funds from Hennepin County (\$1,235,500) and Ramsey County (\$76,000) will be provided through cooperative agreements for the county-funded portions of the amendment following execution.

Small Business Inclusion

The DBE goal on this contract was set at 16%. Kimley-Horn has met the goal and will maintain their DBE utilization with this amendment.

