

Committee Report

Transportation Committee



Committee meeting date: July 28, 2025

For the Metropolitan Council: August 13, 2025

Business Item: 2025-186

AIMRail SCADA System Updates, Contract 23M005G

Proposed action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute a sole source contract 23M005G – Work Order #7, with Wabtec Transportation Systems, LLC (Wabtec) to provide software upgrades and updates in an amount not to exceed \$2,366,265.

Summary of Transportation Committee discussion/questions

Metro Transit Principal Project Coordinator Tyler Susienka presented this item. Obisakin asked how often the AIMTRail SCADA system needs updated. Susienka answered that any project that affects the system generally requires AIMRail to be updated, so it is fairly frequent, but the size of the updates does vary.

Motion by Chamblis, seconded by Carter, Tyronne. Motion carried, consent to Council.



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District(s), member(s):	All
Policy/legal reference:	FM 14-2, Expenditures for the Procurement of Goods, Services, and Real Estate Policy
Staff prepared/presented:	Lesley Kandasas, General Manager, Metro Transit, 612-349-7513 Brian Funk, Deputy General Manager, Metro Transit, 612-349-7514 Marilyn Porter, Director, Metro Transit Eng & Fac, 612-349-7689 Tyler Susienka, Principal Project Coordinator 612-349-7756
Division/department:	Metro Transit, Engineering and Facilities

Proposed action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute a sole source contract 23M005G – Work Order #7, with Wabtec Transportation Systems, LLC (Wabtec) to provide software upgrades and updates in an amount not to exceed \$2,366,265.

Background

Metro Transit is undertaking a series of infrastructure improvement projects aimed at maintaining and enhancing the reliability and safety of the Light Rail Transit system. These projects reflect the system's aging infrastructure and the need for ongoing modernization. The key initiatives include:

Blue Line State of Good Repair 3 (61104):

This project involves major updates to the Blue Line between Terminal 2 Station and the Cedar North Interlocking. As the Blue Line reaches its 20-year milestone, this work continues the long-term effort to maintain and upgrade critical systems and infrastructure.

UMT and MNT Traffic Interface Improvements (68512):

Enhancements are being made to Metro Transit's traffic interfaces near Minnesota Street and the University of Minnesota to improve integration, performance, and reliability in these high-traffic corridors.

Bid Pack 2 – Switch Heater Upgrades (61100):

This project updates switch heaters at multiple key locations: Warehouse, Park, 35W Junction, West Bank, Stadium Village, Raymond Street, and Pascal Street. Additionally, AC Calrod switch heaters at the Interchange Interlocking siding will be transferred from the signal system to the SCADA system to address stray current corrosion issues.

St. Paul OMF Power Switch Conversion (68106):

Manual switches at the St. Paul Operations and Maintenance Facility (OMF) are being upgraded to power switches. This upgrade addresses ongoing safety concerns and reduces the risk of injury among field personnel.

To support these infrastructure improvements, corresponding updates to the AIMRail SCADA system are essential. These changes ensure continued centralized monitoring and control, mitigation of operational risks, and helping prevent service disruptions across the LRT network.

The AIMRail SCADA system is a proprietary product provided by Wabtec. As such, Wabtec is the sole vendor authorized to make programming and graphics modifications, requiring a sole-source procurement for this scope of work.

Rationale

The execution of professional services contract exceeding \$500,000 requires Council approval.

Thrive lens analysis

On Feb. 12, 2025, the Council adopted Imagine 2050, which builds on policy direction in Thrive MSP 2040. Under the Thrive lens, this action advances the outcomes of Prosperity, Equity, and Sustainability through investment in high-quality transportation options that make the region more economically competitive through increased workers' access to employment, and support to employers by increasing available workforce with affordable, convenient transportation; distributing transit resources throughout the region and improving access to jobs, educational opportunities, and health services to diverse communities; and ensuring the region's existing transit resources are maintained in a state of good repair, thereby providing efficient and reliable service

Funding

Funding for this project has been authorized by the Council in the following Projects:

- Capital Project #61104: Local funds of \$2,212,040.
- Capital Project #61100: Local funds of \$79,900.
- Capital Project #68512: Federal funds of \$55,744.
- Capital Project #68106: Federal funds of \$18,581.

Small business inclusion

This agreement is a sole source procurement. The Office of Equity and Equal Opportunity does not review sole source procurements for small business contracting opportunities.

