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## Transportation Committee

Meeting date: June 4, 2012

Metropolitan Council Meeting: June 13, 2012

### ADVISORY INFORMATION

**Date:** May 31, 2012  
**Subject:** Southwest Light Rail Transit Project (Green Line Extension): Award Professional Engineering Services Consultant Contract for the Southwest Light Rail Transit  
**District(s), Member(s):** All  
**Policy/Legal Reference:** Procurement for Professional Services  
**Staff Prepared/Presented:** Brian Lamb, General Manager 612-349-7510  
Mark Fuhrmann, Deputy General Manager, 651-602-1942  
Chris Weyer, SWLRT Project Director 612-373-3820  
**Division/Department:** Metro Transit/ Southwest Project Office (SPO)

### Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to:

- Negotiate and execute a professional services contract with URS for Engineering Services for the Southwest Light Rail Transit (SWLRT) Project in an amount not to exceed \$94 million;
- Issue two limited Notices-to-Proceed for initial Preliminary Engineering and 30% Preliminary Engineering in an amount not to exceed \$27.5 million; and
- Negotiate amendments to the Southwest Light Rail Project Engineering Services Consultant contract such that the cumulative amendments do not exceed \$5 million and any individual amendment does not exceed \$500,000.

### Background

The Engineering Services Consultant will provide Preliminary Engineering, Advanced Preliminary Engineering, Final Design and Design Support during Construction services for the SWLRT.

The Engineering Services Consultant contract consists of five phases:

- Initiate Preliminary Engineering, which includes completing the Work Plan and collecting survey, geotechnical and traffic information;
- Complete 30% Preliminary Engineering;
- Complete Advanced Preliminary Engineering;
- Complete Final Design; and
- Provide Design Support during Construction.

This action will allow work to commence on the first two phases. Any work on the latter three phases will require future Council approval.

Two firms responded to the Council's request for proposals. An Evaluation Panel representing project partners evaluated the proposals and ranked the URS proposal as the most advantageous for the Council. URS's proposal has a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) participation rate of 20 percent, which exceeds the 17 percent goal established by the Office of Diversity.

At the Chair's request, the Office of General Counsel hired the law firm of Hammargren & Meyer, P.A., to conduct an independent analysis of URS's responsibility as it relates to the Engineering Services Consultant contract. Based on its investigation, research, and analysis, it is Special Counsel's objective opinion and advice that there appears to be insufficient grounds upon which the Council can base a determination that URS is nonresponsible with respect to the performance of the Engineering Services Consultant contract.

### **Funding**

Funding in the amount of \$47.1 million has been committed for initial Preliminary Engineering and 30% Preliminary Engineering from the following:

- \$32.8 million in Counties Transit Improvement Board funds
- \$9.3 million in Hennepin County Regional Railroad Authority funds
- \$5 million in State Bond funds

The above funding amounts are available to initiate Preliminary Engineering and complete 30% Preliminary Engineering.

### **Known Support / Opposition**

Project partners participated in the evaluation and ranked the URS proposal as the most advantageous for the Council. No known opposition.