

**T** Transportation Committee  
**Meeting date: October 8, 2012**  
**Metropolitan Council Meeting: October 24, 2012**

**ADVISORY INFORMATION**

**Date:** September 26, 2012  
**Subject:** Southwest Light Rail Transit Project (Green Line Extension): Phase I & Limited Phase II Environmental Site Assessment  
**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  
Nani Jacobson, SWLRT Assistant Director 612-373-3808  
**Division/Department:** Metro Transit/ Southwest Project Office (SPO)

**Proposed Action**

That the Metropolitan Council (Council) authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute a Professional Services Agreement (PSA) with Short Elliott Hendrickson Inc. (SEH) for a Phase I and Limited Phase II Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) for the Southwest Light Rail Transit (SWLRT) Project during the period November 1, 2012 through December 31, 2013 in an amount not to exceed \$415,565.

**Background**

The Phase I ESA consultant will report to the SWLRT Environmental Manager and be responsible for conducting a Phase I ESA of the Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA) and freight rail relocation and co-location corridors, and a limited Phase II ESA of up to two Operations and Maintenance Facility sites for the SWLRT Project. Completion of a Phase I ESA of the LPA alignment will identify and categorize potentially contaminated sites along the SWLRT alignment that must be addressed during Preliminary Engineering (PE). A limited Phase II ESA will inform design decisions made during PE.

Eight proposals were received in response to the Council's request for proposals. An Evaluation Panel representing staff from the Council and Minnesota Department of Transportation evaluated proposals and ranked SEH as the most advantageous for the Council. SEH has Phase I and II experience on transit projects, as well as extensive experience in and around the SWLRT Project study area. SEH also has experience with freight rail companies and demonstrated an understanding of freight rail issues, which will be a critical aspect of this study.

**Rationale**

Professional Service Agreements that exceed \$250,000 require Council action.

**Funding**

Funds are available in the SWLRT Project capital budget.

**Known Support / Opposition**

No known opposition.