

Transportation Committee

Meeting date: March 25, 2013

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of March 27, 2013

Subject: Red Line BRT, Authorization to increase change order allowance

District(s), Member(s): District 5 – Steve Elkins
District 15 – Steven Chavez
District 16 – Wendy Wulff

Policy/Legal Reference: Council Policy 3-3, Expenditure Policy

Staff Prepared/Presented: Brian Lamb, General Manager, 612-349-7510
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Division/Department: Metro Transit Engineering & Facilities

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to increase the contract price for contract number 12P179, for the construction of the Red Line Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) 140th and 147th Street Stations a cumulative amount of up to \$366,700 (10%) of the original contract price.

Background

On September 12, 2012, the Council approved the contract award for the construction of the Red Line walk-up stations at a cost of \$3,667,000. This contract requires that the contractor perform all tasks to complete the construction of four walk-up stations and to put in place the infrastructure that is needed to support the various station and bus technologies at these four stations, which are needed for the operations of the Red Line BRT.

However, the Red Line BRT also includes stations at three other locations – Apple Valley Transit Station, Cedar Grove Transit Station and Mall of America. The Project Management Team, comprised of officials from the Council, Dakota County and Minnesota Valley Transit Authority, has determined that it would be in the best interest of the governing agencies and to our customers to have uniform accommodations at all stations. To accomplish uniformity, emergency phones, public address systems, wayfinding signs, and network connections that are at the four new walkup stations would also have to be implemented at the other stations.

The Project Management Team has also determined that it would be economically prudent and in the best interest of time to have this work done under the existing contract through change order. These changes to the work would cause the contractor to incur costs that will exceed a cumulative amount of 5% of the Contract Price.

Rationale

Council Policy 3-3 establishes expenditure procedures relative to procurement actions. Section I. B. 3. authorizes the Regional Administrator to increase the Contract Price a cumulative amount of 5% of the original Contract Price where the contract price is greater than \$1,000,000 or as otherwise delegated by the Council. Approval of this item will increase this authorization to 10% for a total change order allowance of \$366,700.

The project will advance BRT in the region, as well as increase transit ridership, reduce roadway congestion, and improve air quality by reducing vehicle emissions. The technologies and signs being proposed will keep passengers better informed and encourage people to use the bus service.

Funding

Sufficient funds are available within the project should the changes approach 10% of the Contract Price.

Known Support / Opposition

Dakota County Regional Railroad Authority and Minnesota Valley Transit Authority staffs are in support of this action. There is no known opposition to this action.