

Transportation Committee

Meeting date: November 9, 2015

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of November 18, 2015

Subject: Authorization to award Orange Line BRT Architectural/Engineering Contract

District(s), Member(s): District 5 – Steve Elkins, District 7 – Gary Cunningham, District 8 – Cara Letofsky, District 15 – Steven Chavez

Policy/Legal Reference: Council Expenditure Policy 3-3, Procurement of Goods and Services

Staff Prepared/Presented: Brian Lamb, General Manager, 612-349-7510
Charles Carlson, Sr. Manager, BRT/Small Starts Office, 612/349-7639
Jim Harwood, Lead Project Manager, E&F, 612-349-7339

Division/Department: Metro Transit BRT/Small Starts

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute a contract with HNTB for design and construction support services for the Orange Line Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) project for a cost of \$6,748,535.

Background

The METRO Orange Line is a 17 mile highway BRT project along I-35W connecting the cities of Minneapolis, Richfield, Bloomington and Burnsville, with a future extension to Lakeville. All-day, frequent bidirectional service will complement local and express bus routes in the I-35W corridor, providing competitive running times for station-to-station trips and a new option for reverse-commute markets. The Orange Line will serve ten at-grade stations and one elevated station (Lake Street).

The consultant will provide architectural and engineering services for the Orange Line BRT project. This contract will be for the design and construction support services of proposed improvements along the corridor including new stations, modifications to existing stations, new BRT guideway (including highway bridges at 12th Street in downtown Minneapolis and Knox Avenue and I-494 in Richfield and Bloomington), technology and fare collection systems, and other capital improvements required to operate the Orange Line. The Lake Street station is not included in this contract as it is being pursued in coordination with several major roadway and bridge projects as part of the 35W Transit/Access Project in partnership with MnDOT, Hennepin County and the City of Minneapolis.

Two proposals were received and reviewed by the Evaluation Panel and the proposal from HNTB was determined to be in the best interest of the Council. The proposal has passed the OEO review for DBE participation in the contract.

Rationale

The execution of design and construction service contracts in excess of \$500,000 requires Council approval.

Funding

Project funding is authorized and available for the first phase of this contract within project 62405. This contract will have phased Notice to Proceeds

consistent with the requirements of the FTA Small Starts program and the availability of funding from FTA, CTIB, Hennepin County, Dakota County and other funding partners.

Known Support / Opposition

There is no known opposition to this project.