

**Transportation Committee**

Meeting date: August 9, 2021

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of August 11, 2021

<b>Subject:</b>	METRO B Line – Award Design and Construction Administration Services Contract 20P322
<b>District(s), Member(s):</b>	District 6 (Atlas-Ingebretson), District 7 (Lilligren), District 8 (Muse), District 14 (Fredson), District 13 (Lee)
<b>Policy/Legal Reference:</b>	FM 14-2 - Expenditures for the Procurement of Goods and Services Policy
<b>Staff Prepared/Presented:</b>	Wes Kooistra, General Manager, 612-349-7510 Nick Thompson, Deputy General Manager, 651-602-1754 Charles Carlson, Director, BRT Projects, 612-349-7639 Katie Roth, Assistant Director, BRT Projects, 612-349-7772 Luke Sandstrom, Principal Engineer, BRT Projects, 612-349-7792
<b>Division/Department:</b>	Metro Transit / BRT Projects

**Proposed Action**

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to award and execute contract 20P322 with Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc., for design, engineering, and construction administration for the METRO B Line project in the amount not to exceed \$9,785,510. A same week Council action is requested to ensure timely advancement of the B Line.

**Background**

The B Line bus rapid transit project includes 33 planned stations and supporting infrastructure along a 13-mile corridor following Lake Street, Marshall Avenue, and Selby Avenue. Metro Transit requires an engineering consultant to provide design and construction administration services for the B Line.

**Rationale**

A Request for Proposals was issued March 24, 2021. A pre-proposal meeting was hosted by Council staff that outlined the solicitation requirements, discussed project specifications, and responded to plan holder inquires. There were twenty-one registered plan holders, including eighteen prime consultants, one subcontractor, and two plan rooms. Eight of the plan holders identified as minority, woman, small or disadvantaged business enterprises. The Council received three proposals to be evaluated for the consideration of award.

In accordance with the Brooks Act Procurement process, the evaluation panel ranked and selected the most technically qualified proposer. Following approval of the evaluation panel findings, conclusions and recommendation, the negotiation panel opened the price proposal and conducted negotiations. The panel negotiated pricing and agreed that the final prices are fair and reasonable.

Professional services contracts valued at more than \$500,000 require Council approval.

**Office of Equal Opportunity**

The Office of Equal Opportunity (OEO) set a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) goal of 16 percent for this contract. OEO determined that Kimley-Horn has met the DBE requirements of this contract.



## **Thrive Lens Analysis**

The B Line will upgrade and substantially replace Route 21, Metro Transit's second-highest ridership bus route. Investment in high-quality transportation options in the Route 21 corridor will advance the Thrive outcome of Prosperity, by making the region more economically competitive through increased workers' access to employment, and support to employers by increasing available workforce with affordable, convenient transportation.

The B Line project advances the Thrive outcome of Equity by investing in a transit corridor serving communities of color. More than half of Route 21 riders identify as Black, Indigenous, or people of color (BIPOC). Investment in the B Line will provide riders with faster service and a more comfortable waiting and riding experience.

The proposed action also advances the Thrive outcome of Stewardship by planning for B Line corridor improvements efficiently with regional partnership from Hennepin County, Ramsey County, Minneapolis, and St. Paul.

## **Funding**

Funding for this contract is available within the authorized B Line budget, project 62802. Funding for delivery of the B Line project has been secured through a combination of federal, state, and Metro Transit sources.

## **Known Support / Opposition**

The B Line project is broadly supported by corridor communities and partner agencies. Project partner representation participated in the evaluation process and agreed with ranking Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. the highest and most beneficial for the Council. There is no known opposition.