

Transportation Committee

Meeting date: July 26, 2021

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of August 11, 2021

Subject:	Blue Line Enhancements Phase IIA, Contract 21P084
District(s), Member(s):	District 5, Molly Cummings
Policy/Legal Reference:	FM 14-2 Expenditures for the Procurement of Goods and Services Policy
Staff Prepared/Presented:	Wes Kooistra, Metro Transit General Manager Marilyn Porter, Engineering & Facilities Director Ryan Heath, Project Manager
Division/Department:	Metro Transit – Engineering & Facilities

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorizes its Regional Administrator to award and execute contract 21P084 with Railworks Track Systems Inc., for replacement track, rail, upgrades and replacement of signal system components on the METRO Blue Line in an amount not to exceed \$15,033,893.

Background

Blue Line Enhancements (BLE) is a phased state-of-good repair project on the existing Blue Line light rail line. Certain track components on Blue Line are worn and critical signal components are now obsolete. BLE will also upgrade elements such as pedestrian crossing warning devices that do not comply with current industry or Council standards. Blue Line Enhancements Phase IIA (BLEP2A) will rehabilitate the portion of Blue Line between MOA Station and BCS Station in Bloomington.

An Invitation for Bid was advertised on May 6, 2021. There were forty-two plan holders consisting of six prime bidders; thirty-two subcontractors, suppliers, consultants; and five plan rooms. Ten plan holders identified as woman, minority or veteran owned or disadvantaged business enterprises. A pre-bid meeting was hosted by Council staff that outlined the solicitation requirements, discussed project specifications, and responded to plan holder inquiries. Procurement facilitated a public bid opening on July 1, 2021 and four bids were received.

Office of Equal Opportunity

The Office of Equal Opportunity (OEO) set a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) goal of three (3) percent. OEO determined that Railworks Track Systems, Inc, has met the DBE requirements of this contract.

Rationale

The four bids received ranged from \$15,033,893.00 to \$18,956,700. Railworks Track Systems Inc. submitted the low, responsive, responsible bid, and is recommended for award. The execution of a construction contract exceeding \$2,500,000 requires Council authorization.

Thrive Lens Analysis

This action promotes prosperity and sustainability by ensuring the region's existing transit resources are maintained in a state of good repair, thereby providing efficient and reliable service.

Funding

Project funding is authorized in Table 3 of the 2021 CIP and is included in the 2nd quarter budget amendment for approval in August. Notice to proceed will not be issued prior to funds being available.

Known Support / Opposition

There is no known opposition to this project.



Figure 1: BLEP2A project limits shown in blue. The BLEP2A project will rehabilitate Blue Line between MOA Station and BCS Station.