

Business Item

Transportation Committee



Committee Meeting Date: June 27, 2022

For the Metropolitan Council: July 13, 2022

Business Item: 2022-171

METRO Gold Line Bus Rapid Transit Contract Award for Civil Construction (21P320)

District(s), Member(s):	District 12 (Gonzalez), District 11 (Vento), District 13 (Lee)
Policy/Legal Reference:	FM14-2 - Expenditures for the Procurement of Goods, Services and Real Estate Policy
Staff Prepared/Presented:	Wes Kooistra, General Manager, 612-349-7510 Nick Thompson, Deputy General Manager, 612-349-7507 Steve Barrett, Gold Line Construction Manager, 651-602-1993
Division/Department:	Metro Transit Capital Programs – METRO Gold Line Project Office

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council (“the Council”) authorize the Regional Administrator to execute contract 21P320 with Ames Construction, for civil construction of the METRO Gold Line Bus Rapid Transit Project (“Project”) in an amount not to exceed \$247,954,229.63, contingent upon receipt of Letter of No Prejudice (LONP) from the Federal Transit Administration and approval of the LONP work from the Gold Line Joint Powers Board.

Background

The Gold Line is a planned 10-mile transitway that would run generally along the north side of Interstate 94 in primarily an exclusive lane for buses within Ramsey and Washington Counties. The Council is the local project sponsor and lead agency for the Gold Line and was granted entry into the Engineering phase of the Capital Investment Grant Program by the Federal Transit Administration as a New Starts project in April 2021. A Full Funding Grant Agreement (FFGA) from the FTA was requested in February 2022 and an LONP was requested in April 2022.

Most of the construction work for the Gold Line will be completed as part of contract 21P320 for civil construction which is scheduled to begin August 2022 prior to the FFGA under an LONP.

The Invitation for Bids was advertised on March 10, 2022. A pre-bid meeting was hosted by Council staff that outlined the solicitation requirements, discussed project specifications and responded to plan holder inquires. There were one hundred and fifty-five plan holders, thirteen prime bidders, fourteen consultants, thirty-five suppliers, eighty-six subcontractors, seven plan rooms, and fifty-two plan holders identified as woman, minority, veteran, or disadvantaged business enterprises. Procurement facilitated a public bid opening on June 8, 2022, and three bids were received.

Rationale

The three bids received ranged from \$247,954,229.63 to \$310,092,311.06. Ames Construction submitted the low, responsive and responsible bid and is recommended for award. The execution of a construction contract more than \$2,500,000 requires Council approval.

Thrive Lens Analysis

Investment in high-quality transportation options 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 Project advances the Equity outcome by distributing transit resources throughout the region and improving access to jobs, educational opportunities, and health services to diverse communities.

Funding

Local funding is fully provided through an executed Capital Grant Agreement with the Gold Line Joint Powers Board and incorporated into the Council's Authorized Capital Budget under Project #61402.

Small Business Inclusion

The Office of Equity and Equal Opportunity (OEEO) assigned a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) goal of 17% for the Project. OEEO has determined that the low bidder meets the Council's DBE contract requirements for the Project.

