

Business Item

Transportation Committee



Committee Meeting Date: June 27, 2022

For the Metropolitan Council: July 13, 2022

Business Item: 2022-173

METRO Purple Line Bus Rapid Transit Environmental and Peer Review Contract (22P031)

District(s), Member(s):	District 13 (Lee), District 14 (Fredson)
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, Capital Programs 612-349-7507 Craig Lamothe, Senior Project Manager, BRT Projects 651-602-1978 Robin Cauffman, Director of Administration 651-602-1457
Division/Department:	Metro Transit Capital Programs – METRO Purple Line Project Office

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute contract 22P031 with HNTB, to provide environmental and peer review services for the METRO Purple Line Bus Rapid Transit Project (“Project”) in an amount not to exceed \$3,646,800.43.

Background

This contract will provide interdisciplinary environmental and peer review for the Project through all its phases. This work will include environmental re-evaluation, Section 106 historic properties analysis, contaminated materials monitoring, project quality management, risk management, design and engineering oversight and construction oversight services.

A Request for Proposals was issued on February 24, 2022. Council staff hosted a pre-proposal meeting on March 9, 2022, that outlined the solicitation requirements, discussed Project specifications, and responded to plan holder inquiries. There were nineteen registered plan holders, sixteen consultants, two subcontractors, one plan room, and six plan holders identified as minority, woman, small, veteran or disadvantaged business enterprises. The Council received one proposal to be evaluated for the consideration of award. Procurement staff did not find any indication that the Council’s specifications were restrictive and determined there was adequate competition for this project.

In accordance with the Brooks Act, the evaluation of the proposal followed a two-step process. An evaluation panel, consisting of the Council staff, Project partners, and subject matter experts, reviewed the proposal and ranked the technical merits of the proposer. Following approval of the evaluation panel findings, conclusions, and recommendation, the costing data of the proposer was reviewed by a negotiation panel that negotiated pricing and agreed that the final prices have been determined to be fair and reasonable and recommend the HNTB proposal as the most advantageous to the Council and funding partners. Work orders for specific projects under this contract will be issued on an as-needed basis.

Rationale

The execution of professional service contracts above \$500,000 requires Council approval.

Thrive Lens Analysis

Investment in high-quality transportation options will advance Prosperity by making the region more economically competitive through increased workers' access to employment and providing support to employers by increasing available workforce with affordable, convenient transportation.

The Project advances Equity and Livability by distributing transit resources throughout the region and investing in quality transit service that serves diverse communities. More than half of the corridor population identify as Black, Indigenous, or people of color ("BIPOC"). There are approximately 18,000 zero car households in the corridor and nearly 20 percent of households living below the poverty level. Investing in a frequent, fast, and reliable transit option improves access to jobs, financial opportunities, educational opportunities, and services.

Funding

The Project's Project Development phase is fully funded at \$39.9 million with funding commitments from Ramsey County and Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority. All funding commitments are currently reflected in the Council's Authorized Capital Budget in Project 61109 Purple Line BRT. This contract will issue Notices to Proceed as the Project advances and corresponding to available Project funding.

Small Business Inclusion

The Office of Equity and Equal Opportunity (OEEO) assigned a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) goal of 8% for the Project. OEEO has determined that the recommended proposer has met the Council's DBE contract requirements for the Project.

