

# Business Item

Transportation Committee



Committee Meeting Date: August 28, 2023

For the Metropolitan Council: September 13, 2023

## Business Item: 2023-191

Regional Solicitation Evaluation Consulting Services, Contract 23P026

<b>District(s), Member(s):</b>	All
<b>Policy/Legal Reference:</b>	FM 14-2 - Expenditures for the Procurement of Goods, Services, and Real Estate Policy
<b>Staff Prepared/Presented:</b>	Amy Vennewitz, Deputy Director, Finance & Planning (651-602-1058) Steve Peterson, Senior Manager (651-602-1819)
<b>Division/Department:</b>	Transportation / Metropolitan Transportation Services (MTS)

### Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to award and execute contract 23P026 with SRF Consulting Group, Inc. for consulting services for the Regional Solicitation Evaluation in an amount not to exceed \$836,207.63.

### Background

The Regional Solicitation Evaluation will evaluate and redesign the entire Regional Solicitation program and process for selecting projects for federal transportation funding in the seven-county metro area. The purpose of the Regional Solicitation Evaluation is to tie federally funded project selection closely to the vision, goals, and objectives of the 2050 Regional Development Guide (RDG) and the 2050 Transportation Policy Plan (TPP), which are both currently being updated. In doing so, the Council, as the region's Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), will ensure that the region's current transportation goals, objectives and policies are imbedded into regional transportation project selection and that the outcomes of the selected projects help move the region towards achieving its vision. Similar work was completed approximately 10 years ago in step with the major update to the 2040 Transportation Policy Plan, which was adopted in 2014. The consultant will also provide consulting services to work with Council staff and external stakeholders on completing this redesign work of the applications.

A Request for Proposals was issued on May 1, 2023. A Pre-Proposal meeting was hosted on May 9, 2023, by Council staff that outlined the solicitation requirements, discussed project specifications, and responded to plan holder inquiries. There were eleven registered plan holders ten consultants, one plan room, and four plan holders identified as minority, woman, veteran, small, or disadvantaged business enterprises. The Council received three proposals to be evaluated for the consideration of award to be evaluated for the consideration of award and used proposer quality, proposer qualifications, experience, price. The evaluation panel reached consensus on August 11, 2023, that the proposal submitted by SRF Consulting Group, Inc. is most advantageous to the Council.

## **Rationale**

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

## **Thrive Lens Analysis**

This action promotes all five outcomes, as the study will closely tie the new 2050 Regional Development Guide and 2050 Transportation Policy Plan to funding decisions.

## **Funding**

Funding for the contract is available from a federal transportation planning funding grant, called the Consolidated Planning Grant, which comes to the Council as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the region. This funding, combined with a local match, is documented in the federally required Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP).

## **Small Business Inclusion**

The Office of Equity and Equal Opportunity (OEEO) set a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) goal of 15%. OEEO determined that the firm being recommended for award has met the DBE requirements of this contract.

