

Business Item

Transportation Committee



Committee Meeting Date: November 25, 2024

For the Metropolitan Council: December 11, 2024

Business Item: 2024-284

METRO Green Line Extension Freight Rail Flagging Services, Contract 21P271 – Amendment No. 5

District(s), Member(s):	District 3 (Carter), District 6 (Lilligren), District 7 (Osman), District 8 (Cameron)
Policy/Legal Reference:	FM 14-2 Expenditures for the Procurement of Goods, Services, and Real Estate Policy
Staff Prepared/Presented:	Lesley Kandaras, General Manager, 612-349-7513 Nick Thompson, Deputy GM Capital Programs, 651-602-1754 Jim Alexander, Project Director, 612-373-3880 Nic Dial, Deputy Project Director, 612-373-2974
Division/Department:	Metro Transit / METRO Green Line Extension Project Office

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute an amendment to contract 21P271 with RailPros for freight rail flagging services in the amount of \$775,936, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$1,326,559.

Background

In March 2022 the Council and Rail Pros executed contract 21P271 in the amount of \$310,000 to perform freight rail flagging in the BNSF Wayzata Subdivision for the METRO Green Line Extension Project through December 2022.

The contract has subsequently been amended in response to BNSF's limited capacity to provide flagging staff on the Project as follows:

- Amendment No. 1 extended the contract to December 31, 2023
- Amendment No. 2 extended the contract to December 31, 2024
- Amendment No. 3 added \$189,999 (BI 2024-128)
- Amendment No. 4 added \$50,624, which was within the Council authorized amount

Amendment No. 5 is required to continue flagging services. This amendment will extend the contract term to December 31, 2025.

Staff will assess project needs toward the end of 2025 and determine if flagging services will be required in 2026.

Rationale

Council Policy requires amendments exceeding 10% of the original authorized contract value be approved by the Council for services contract if the cumulative value exceeds \$500,000. Amendments to contracts of this value that exceed 10% of the original value constitute sole source

procurements requiring Council approval.

Thrive Lens Analysis

Successful completion of the METRO Green Line Extension will advance the following Thrive MSP 2040 outcomes:

Stewardship: Transit investment provides an opportunity to reinvest and grow the capacity of our communities, with more inclusive development and intentional investment. It encourages businesses to invest in communities, which means access to resources, community amenities, jobs, and other community assets.

Equity: Connections to other METRO lines and countless local bus routes will bring people to jobs, jobs to communities, and returns to communities across the region.

Livability: The METRO Green Line Extension will add 14.5 miles to the existing Line, which connects downtown Minneapolis, downtown Saint Paul, and places in-between. This segment connects Eden Prairie, Minnetonka, Hopkins, and St. Louis Park to both downtown Minneapolis and Saint Paul, and major destinations at the University of Minnesota and the State Capitol.

Prosperity: The METRO Green Line Extension reflects strategic investment in regional infrastructure that will promote economic competitiveness and create prosperity for the region. Despite being under construction, the METRO Green Line Extension has already seen \$3.1 billion of investment within a half-mile of the line. Another \$738 million in investment is planned.

Sustainability: As many as 700,000 more people will be living, working, and moving around the Twin Cities region by 2040. As a result, a robust transportation system is needed to provide the region with choices and more mobility.

Funding

The cost for this amendment is a METRO Green Line Extension Project (61001) eligible cost. Funds are available in the Project budget and included in the Council's authorized capital budget.

Small Business Inclusion

The Office of Equity and Equal Opportunity does not assign goals for sole source procurements.

