

T Transportation Committee

Meeting date: November 9, 2009
Metropolitan Meeting: November 18, 2009

ADVISORY INFORMATION

Date: November 2, 2009
Subject: Hiawatha Light Rail Transit Operations and Maintenance Facility Expansion, Project 64910
District(s), Member(s): District 7, Annette Meeks, 612-341-8168
Policy/Legal Reference: MN Statutes 473.405 subd. 3
Staff Prepared / Presented: Brian J. Lamb, General Manager, Metro Transit 612-349-7510
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Division / Department: Metro Transit / Engineering & Facilities

Proposed Action

Authorize the Regional Administrator to award and execute a professional services contract with TKDA for design and construction support services of the Hiawatha Light Rail Transit (HLRT) Operations and Maintenance (O&M) Facility Expansion at a cost of \$1,590,000.

Background

The Hiawatha O&M Facility is to be expanded to accommodate new light rail vehicles (LRV) that are to be purchased for the Hiawatha three-car train program, as well as to receive and store future Central Corridor LRV's until the Central Corridor facilities are complete. The expansion is to consist of three major components: additional LRV storage space; addition of an in-floor hoist in the maintenance area; and additional parts storage, facility maintenance and shop space.

A request for proposal was issued in September and five proposals were received. The proposals were evaluated by an evaluation panel consisting of project and operations personnel in accordance with Brooks Act procedures. The evaluation panel determined that TKDA provided the proposal most advantageous to the Council by clearly displaying solid understanding of the project and providing an experienced team to complete the required tasks.

After ranking the technical proposals the evaluation team opened TKDA's cost proposal. TKDA's cost proposal totaled \$1,880,000. The initial independent cost estimate (ICE) totaled \$1,130,000. During the first negotiation, staff recognized that the initial ICE was lacking in two areas. These included the number of submittal reviews required during construction and the design effort required for specialized systems design. At this point, staff performed another independent evaluation of the ICE that incorporated these items.

Submittals: The estimated number of submittals during construction increased from 80 to 400. This reflects rail staff experience on the recently completed Northstar project.

Specialized Systems Design: The initial estimate for systems design included only signal and track design. The revised ICE includes distinct design efforts for traction power, communications, and the overhead catenary system (OCS) that had been insufficiently included in the initial estimate.

Inclusion of these revisions increased the ICE to \$1,550,000 and negotiations continued. Ultimately TKDA revised their cost proposal three times and final negotiations resulted in a projected award value of \$1,590,000 for the total contract.

In view of the missing elements in the estimate and the recognition that negotiations resulted in TKDA reducing their proposal by almost \$300,000, staff has determined that the negotiated value is fair and reasonable.

Rationale

Authorization to award and execute a contract for the design of the LRT O&M Facility Expansion allows design to begin with sufficient time to work towards our goal of completing construction in 2012, the anticipated timeline for the arrival of new LRV's.

Funding

Sufficient funding from federal and local sources is available to award this design contract. Funding is available from federal grant MN-05-0018-01 and RTC funds.

Known Support / Opposition

There is no known opposition.