

# T Transportation Committee

**Meeting date: July 27, 2009**

**For Metropolitan Council Meeting: Aug 12, 2009**

## **ADVISORY INFORMATION**

**Date:** July 20, 2009  
**Subject:** Construction of Bus Rapid Transit Station at I-35W and 46<sup>th</sup> Street in Minneapolis, Project 63111  
**District(s), Member(s)** District 8, Lynette Wittsack, 612-788-1235  
**Policy/Legal Reference:** MN Statues 473.405 subd.4  
**Staff** Brian J. Lamb, General Manager, Metro Transit 612-349-7510  
**Prepared/Presented:** Tom Thorstenson, Director Eng. & Facilities 612-349-7689  
Joe Edwards, Project Lead Manager 612-349-7676  
Mac Sweidan, Project Manager 612-349-7761  
**Division/Department:** Metro Transit/Engineering & Facilities

### **Proposed Action**

Authorize the Regional Administrator to award and execute a contract with the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, Lund-Martin Construction, for the construction of the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Station at I-35W and 46<sup>th</sup> Street in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

### **Background**

Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) is currently undertaking improvements to the I-35W – Highway 62 interchange area and improving and extending the I-35W High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lane from I-494 to 46<sup>th</sup> Street. These improvements include the potential for a future BRT Corridor along I-35W. As an initial step for the BRT Corridor, Metro Transit will construct a new BRT Station at the intersection of I-35W and 46<sup>th</sup> Street in Minneapolis. The station will provide for vertical pedestrian circulation between I-35W buses and 46<sup>th</sup> Street buses on the bridge above.

On June 11, 2009, eight bids were received and opened publicly. The bids ranged from \$2,931,252 to \$4,130,000. The engineer's estimate for this work was \$4,182,200. The low bid of \$2,931,252.00 was 30% below the engineer's estimate. A 15% Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) goal was assigned to this project. Lund-Martin Construction has committed 4% of the work to be directed to DBE companies. The Office of Diversity and Equal Opportunity (ODEO) has approved the commitment and good faith effort from Lund Martin.

### **Rationale**

Authorization to award and execute a contract for the construction of the BRT Station allows construction to begin to meet the timeline stipulated in the understanding between the Metropolitan Council (Council) and MnDOT. The execution of a construction contract in excess of \$1,000,000 requires Council approval.

## **Funding**

Sufficient funding from federal and local sources is available in Project 63111 to award the construction contract as well as provide 5% contingency in the event of changes required during construction.

## **Known Support / Opposition**

The Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT), the Federal Highway Department (FHWA) and the neighborhood residents through public meetings have expressed support for the subject project. There is no known opposition to the project.