

T Transportation Committee
For the Metropolitan Council meeting of May 13, 2009

ADVISORY INFORMATION

Date Prepared: May 12, 2009

Subject: Hiawatha Light Rail Transit American Boulevard Station, Project 63701

Proposed Action:

Authorize the Regional Administrator to award and execute a contract with the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, Sheehy Construction, for the construction of the new American Boulevard Station in Bloomington on the Hiawatha Light Rail Transit (HLRT) line at a cost of \$2,265,300.

Summary of Committee Discussion / Questions:

After a brief presentation by staff, Council Member Haas-Steffen asked about funding from the individual sources.

The funding for this project consists substantially of a \$1.775 million CMAQ grant and \$1,150,000 from the Bloomington Port Authority. Additional funds are provided by Hennepin County Regional Rail Authority and Regional Transit Capital (RTC).

The proposed action was moved, seconded and approved unanimously.

T Transportation Committee

Meeting date: May 11, 2009

For Metropolitan Council Meeting: May 13, 2009

ADVISORY INFORMATION	
Date:	May 5, 2009
Subject:	Hiawatha Light Rail Transit American Boulevard Station, Project 63701
District(s), Member(s):	District 5, Polly Bowles 952 922-8426
Policy/Legal Reference:	MN Statutes 473.405 subd.3
Staff Prepared/Presented:	Brian J. Lamb, General Manager, Metro Transit 612-349-7510 Tom Thorstenson, Director Engineering & Facilities 612-349-7689 MarySue Abel, Project Manager 612-349-7638
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, Sheehy Construction, for the construction of the new American Boulevard Station in Bloomington on the Hiawatha Light Rail Transit (HLRT) line at a cost of \$2,265,300.

Background

The American Boulevard Station was initially bid with the HLRT platform extensions project, which consisted of three main elements: Platform Extensions, construction of the American Boulevard Station and Grade Crossing Control Upgrades. The construction of the American Boulevard Station was deleted from the contract award due to funding limitations.

Following the original bid, a value engineering effort identified opportunities to lower the construction costs. The plans and specifications were reassembled and re-issued for bids on March 30, 2009. On April 23, 2009, nine (9) bids were received and opened publicly. The bids ranged from \$1,969,560 to \$2,886,000. The engineer’s estimate for this work was \$2,600,000.

On April 24 the apparent low bidder asked that it be allowed to withdraw its bid due to an error in preparing its bid. The apparent low bidder provided sufficient supporting documentation to verify that the error was made and was allowed to withdraw its bid. The next lowest bid of \$2,265,300, submitted by Sheehy Construction, was 13% below the engineer’s estimate. Sheehy Construction has committed 13% of the work to be directed to Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) companies.

Rationale

Authorization to award and execute a contract for the construction of the HLRT American Boulevard Station allows construction to begin with sufficient time to complete construction along with the platform extensions contract. This work is to complete by March 2010. It also allows construction to occur concurrently with the work already being performed to extend the platforms and upgrade the grade crossing controls, which will minimize overall impact to rail operations. 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 to award the construction contract as well as provide 5% contingency in the event of changes required during construction. Funding is available from a federal CMAQ grant, the Bloomington Port Authority and RTC funds.

Known Support / Opposition

There is strong support from the City of Bloomington and the Hennepin County Regional Rail Authority. There is no known opposition.