

T Transportation Committee
For Metropolitan Council meeting of October 27, 2010

Date Prepared: October 12, 2010

Subject: Arterial Transitway Corridors Study

Proposed Action:

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute a professional services contract for planning, concept design, and forecasting relative to the Arterial Transitway Corridors Study, at a cost of \$324,363.

Summary of Committee Discussion / Questions:

After a brief staff presentation, Council members asked questions:

Council Member Scherer inquired about the proposal price coming in very close to the estimated value. The estimated value was published with the Request for Proposals, which provided some guidance to proposers.

Council Member Haas Steffen inquired about the geographic areas included in the study process. The study area will focus on Minneapolis and St. Paul and first-ring and some second-ring suburban cities served by the eleven study corridors.

Council Member Haas Steffen asked which version of the *2030 Transportation Policy Plan* (TPP) includes direction for the study. The study is recommended in the *2030 Transportation Policy Plan* adopted January 14, 2009 and amended May 26, 2010.

The proposed action was moved by Council Member Hilker, seconded by Council Member Peterson, and approved unanimously.

T Transportation Committee
Meeting date: October 11, 2010
Metropolitan Council Meeting: October 27, 2010

ADVISORY INFORMATION

Date: October 6, 2010
Subject: Arterial Transitway Corridors Study
District(s), Member(s): All
Policy/Legal Reference: Procurement of Professional Services
2030 Transportation Policy Plan Work Program Task
Staff Prepared/Presented: Brian Lamb, General Manager Metro Transit, 612-349-7710
John Levin, Director Service Development 612-349-7789
Adam Harrington, Asst. Director Route & System Planning,
Service Development, 612-349-7797
Charles Carlson, Project Manager, 612-349-7639
Division/Department: Metro Transit/Service Development

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council (Council) authorize the Regional Administrator to execute a professional services contract for planning, concept design, and forecasting relative to the Arterial Transitway Corridors Study, at a cost of \$324,363.

Background

The Arterial Transitways Corridor Study will develop a facility and service plan to enhance efficiency, speed, reliability, customer amenities and transit market competitiveness on high demand local bus corridors identified for Arterial Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) in the region's *2030 Transportation Policy Plan*. Eleven corridors will be evaluated for improvements in the study, which will be completed in approximately one year.

A request for proposals (RFP) was issued August 3, 2010 seeking proposals for planning services. Seven firms responded to the Council's RFP. An evaluation panel ranked the proposals in accordance with established Council procedures for projects funded with federal dollars. The evaluation panel has recommended award to SRF Consulting, Inc. (SRF) for the professional services, as being in the best interest of the Council, at a cost of \$324,363, which compares favorably with the estimate of \$324,822. SRF committed 19.4% of the effort to be completed by certified Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) firms vs. a project goal of 15%.

Rationale

The execution of a professional services contract in excess of \$250,000 requires Council approval.

Funding

Current funding for the Arterial Transitway Corridors Study is covered through project number 30120, the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) administered by Metropolitan Transportation Services staff. The project is included in the UPWP.

Known Support / Opposition

Local communities have expressed support for the subject study.