

**T** Transportation Committee

Metropolitan Council meeting: December 8, 2010

**ADVISORY INFORMATION**

**Date Prepared:** November 23, 2010

**Subject:** Central Corridor Light Rail Transit: Public Art Contract for Infill Stations

**Proposed Action:**

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator:

- To negotiate and execute a professional services contract with Foster Willey Sculptor LLC to design, fabricate and install public art on the Hamline and Victoria Central Corridor Light Rail Transit stations, in an amount not to exceed \$374,000.
- To negotiate and execute a professional services contract with Widgery Works, Inc. to design, fabricate and install public art on the Western Central Corridor Light Rail Transit station, in an amount not to exceed \$187,000.

**Summary of Committee Discussion / Questions:**

Mark Fuhrmann presented the item. A motion was made by Councilmember Leppik, seconded by Councilmember Hilker, and unanimously approved.



## Transportation Committee

Meeting date: November 22, 2010

Metropolitan Council Meeting: December 8, 2010

### ADVISORY INFORMATION

Date:	November 15, 2010
Subject:	Central Corridor Light Rail Transit: Public Art Contract for Infill Stations
District(s), Member(s):	All
Policy/Legal Reference:	Procurement of Public Artists
Staff Prepared/Presented:	Brian Lamb, General Manager 612-349-7510 Mark Fuhrmann, Deputy General Manager, 651-602-1942, Rich Rovang, CCLRT Project Director, 651-602-1941
Division/Department:	Metro Transit/ Central Corridor Project Office

### Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator:

- To negotiate and execute a professional services contract with Foster Willey Sculptor LLC to design, fabricate and install public art on the Hamline and Victoria Central Corridor Light Rail Transit stations, in an amount not to exceed \$374,000.
- To negotiate and execute a professional services contract with Widgey Works, Inc. to design, fabricate and install public art on the Western Central Corridor Light Rail Transit station, in an amount not to exceed \$187,000.

### Background

In 2008, five artists were hired to design, fabricate, and install public art at the original fifteen Central Corridor Light Rail Transit stations. In 2010, the Metropolitan Council initiated a procurement for artists to create integrated public art at stations located at Hamline, Western, and Victoria. These three stations were added to the Central Corridor in February 2010.

Eight artists responded to the Council's request for qualifications, and were all deemed responsive. In September, an Artist Selection Committee (ASC) representing the Metropolitan Council and project partners evaluated and ranked the qualified artists in accordance with established Council procedures for FTA funded projects and developed a shortlist of three artists. The three shortlisted artists were invited to propose on the public art work and were interviewed by the ASC.

The contracts will include provisions:

For staff to issue separate notices-to-proceed for design, and for fabrication/installation.

To give the Council the right to terminate the contract at any time, should that be necessary.

## **Rationale**

The ASC evaluated the proposals in accordance with established Council procedures for FTA funded projects and based on the following criteria:

Artistic merit  
Appropriateness for outdoor environment  
Durability and ability to withstand the climate extremes  
Maintenance requirements (including resistance to vandalism)  
References/satisfaction of previous installed public art works  
Approach to community coordination

The following artists were deemed the most advantageous based on the criteria:

Foster Willey Sculptor LLC (artist Foster Willey, Minneapolis) – Hamline and Victoria stations  
Widgery Works, Inc. (artist Catherine Widgery, Boston area) – Western station

## **Funding**

The total cost for the public art contracts at Hamline, Victoria, and Western stations is \$561,000. External funding for the cost of these contracts was sought from the St. Paul Chamber, Midway Chamber, and Target Foundation without success.

Funding for public artwork at these three stations was not originally contemplated in the stations' construction budget. Funding to implement the public artwork is available from Project contingency within the Project's overall budget of \$956.9 million. No adjustment to the Project budget is required as part of awarding these contracts.

## **Known Support / Opposition**

The artists and station assignments are consistent with the recommendation made by the ASC (see Attachment 1).

The project partners and community support integrating public art into the Hamline, Victoria and Western stations.