

T Transportation Committee

For Metropolitan Council meeting of January 12, 2011

Date January 11, 2011
Prepared:
Subject: Construction Contract for F T Heywood Computer Room Upgrade

Proposed Action:

Authorize the Regional Administrator to award and execute a contract with the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, Rochon Corporation, for the construction work on the F T Heywood (FTH) Computer Room Upgrade at the FTH Office building in Minneapolis at a cost of \$1,138,000.

Summary of Committee Discussion / Questions:

After a brief presentation by staff, Council Member Peterson asked about the time between completion of the study in 2008 and today. Staff responded that the design involved a growing number of elements that as one issue was resolved, others developed, which is often anticipated with renovation work. Additionally and although not mentioned at the meeting, the project was bid earlier in 2010 but not awarded. At that time staff decided to modify the scope further to remain within budget.

Council Member Peterson also asked if staff had a remote or "hot site" computer operation redundancy. Dave Hinrichs, Chief Information Officer responded that no, the Council does not have a computer hot site that allows for immediate fail over during an outage. Rather, there are two data center locations – one at Heywood, another at the Office of Enterprise Technology (OET) near the Capitol in downtown St. Paul. Various servers and applications are hosted at each data center, and if one data center experiences a significant outage for an extended period of time, the servers and applications at the damaged center can be restored from the Council's tape backup system on hardware at the other data center. There would be some disruption in service until the restoration is completed, which is why ensuring each data center is functioning at an optimal level is important.

The item was moved, seconded and approved unanimously without further discussion.

T Transportation Committee
Meeting date: January 10, 2011
Metropolitan Council Meeting: January 12, 2011

ADVISORY INFORMATION	
Date:	December 6, 2010
Subject:	Construction Contract for FTHeywood Computer Room Upgrade
District(s), Member(s):	District 7, Annette Meeks, 612-341-8168
Policy/Legal Reference:	MN Statutes 473.405 subd.4
Staff Prepared/Presented:	Brian Lamb, General Manager, MT, 612/349-7510 Tom Thorstenson, Director, E/F, 612/349-7689 Pat Jones, Assistant Director, E/F, 612/349-7606 Robert Rimstad, Project Manager, E/F, 612/349-7768
Division/Department:	Metro Transit Engineering and Facilities

Proposed Action

Authorize the Regional Administrator to award and execute a contract with the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, Rochon Corporation, for construction work on the FTHeywood (FTH) Computer Room Upgrade at the FTH Office building in Minneapolis at a cost of \$1,138,000.

Background

A Power Supply Assessment and Recommendations was prepared for the FTH Computer Room in February 2008, after a late November 2007 power system failure that resulted in staff and system downtime to the transit data network system, including the fare collection. The recommendations made in the report have been implemented into the design to upgrade the computer room and to reduce the risk of future network downtime.

On November 23, 2010, four bids were received and opened publicly. The bids ranged from \$1,012,000 to \$1,214,212. The engineer's estimate for this work was \$1,110,000. A 15% Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) goal was assigned to this project. Rochon Corporation has committed 23% of the work to be directed to DBE companies. The Office of Diversity of Equal Opportunity (ODEO) has approved the commitment and good faith effort from Rochon Corporation.

Staff has determined the second low bid of \$1,138,000, submitted by Rochon Corporation, fair and reasonable and in the best interest of the Council. The low bid of \$1,012,000 from Lund Martin Construction, Inc. was withdrawn due to a mathematical error used to calculate their total bid price.

Rationale

Execution of this work improves Data Center reliability with redundant, energy efficient mechanical and electrical systems. 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 62111 to award the construction contract as well as provide 5% contingency in the event of changes required during construction.

Known Support / Opposition

There is no known opposition to the proposed action.