

T Transportation Committee

Meeting date: October 22, 2007

For the Metropolitan Council Meeting – November 14, 2007

ADVISORY INFORMATION

Date:	October 8, 2007
Subject:	Design of the HLRT American Boulevard Station and Platform Extensions
District(s), Member(s):	Russ Susag, District 5, Annette Meeks, District 7, Lynette Wittsack, District 8
Policy/Legal Reference:	Minnesota Statutes 473.129 and 473.405
Staff Prepared/Presented:	Brian Lamb, General Manager, 612 349-7510 Tom Thorstenson, Director, Engineering & Construction, 612 349-7689
Division/Department:	Metro Transit Engineering and Facilities Division

Proposed Action/Motion

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to award and execute a professional services contract with Kimley-Horn and Associates for design and construction support services of the HLRT American Boulevard Station and Platform Extensions at 10 HLRT stations.

Issue(s)

- Council approval is required for design contracts above \$250,000.

Overview

This professional services contract provides design and construction support services for two major projects: American Boulevard Station and Platform Extensions at 10 HLRT stations. A notice to proceed for the American Boulevard Station is planned in November, 2007 and a notice to proceed for the 10 platform extensions is planned in December, 2007.

American Boulevard Station: In 2003, the Hiawatha LRT Project realigned the south end of the project to bring light rail service directly to the Mall of America and deferred inclusion of the 34th Avenue/American Boulevard Station, due to funding limitations at that time. A CMAQ grant in the amount of \$1.775 million was awarded for the stations construction. The City of Bloomington has requested that the construction of the American Boulevard Station be advanced for completion in 2009. The portion of the professional services contract for the American Boulevard station is estimated at \$500,000.

Platform Extensions: The platforms at 10 stations are to be extended to allow for 3-car trains. Construction completion of the extensions by April 2010 would provide 3-car train capability when the Twins Stadium opens in the spring of 2010. This portion of the design contract is estimated at \$1,000,000.

The engineer's estimate for this total design contract was \$908,000 (\$310,000 for American Boulevard and \$598,000 for the platform extensions) as compared to a negotiated estimate of \$1,500,000 for the total contract. The designer's proposal and resultant negotiations identified that alternative construction methods would need to be evaluated to minimize disruptions to HLRT operations. Such alternative methods will result in new and additional detailed design drawings not previously identified. (The 2003 design did not need to consider impacts on operations underway). Staff has determined that the negotiated estimate is fair and reasonable.

Funding:

The American Boulevard Station design and construction support services is to be funded through an agreement with the Hennepin County Regional Rail Authority (HCRRRA) and with RTC funds. The HCRRRA agreement is to provide approximately \$250,000 for consultant design services. RTC funds are to provide the remaining amount required for design services. Funds are available for this element of the design contract within Project 63701 as proposed by the budget amendment under consideration.

The Platform Extensions design and construction support services are to be funded with RTC funds that are to be used for local match on federal funds. Funds are available for this element of the design contract within Project 63730 as proposed by the budget amendment under consideration.