

T Transportation Committee

Meeting date: June 25, 2012

Metropolitan Council Meeting: July 11, 2012

ADVISORY INFORMATION

Date: June 15, 2012
Subject: Midtown Corridor Alternatives Analysis
District(s), Member(s): All
Policy/Legal Reference: Procurement of Professional Services
2030 Transportation Policy Plan Work Program Tasks
Staff Prepared/Presented: Brian Lamb, General Manager Metro Transit, 612-349-7510
John Levin, Director Service Development 612-349-7789
Adam Harrington, Asst. Director Route & System Planning
612-349-7797
Charles Carlson, Manager of Transitway Projects, 612-349-7639
Michael Mechtenberg, Project Manager, 612-349-7793
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 Midtown Corridor Alternatives Analysis, at a cost of \$740,125.

Background

The Midtown Corridor is identified as a transitway in the 2030 Transportation Policy Plan and is recommended for further study for the appropriate mode and alignment for improved transit service. The Midtown Corridor Alternatives Analysis will evaluate the costs, benefits, and impacts of transportation alternatives with the goal of enhancing the efficiency, speed, reliability, customer amenities and transit competitiveness within this high demand transit corridor. The corridor connects Hiawatha (Blue Line) and Southwest (Green Line Extension) light rail corridors via Lake Street or the Midtown Greenway alignment. Up to six mode alternatives will be evaluated in the study, which will be completed in approximately 18 months.

A request for proposals (RFP) was issued April 18, 2012 seeking proposals for professional services. Four firms responded to the Council's RFP. An evaluation panel ranked the proposals in accordance with established Council procedures for federally funded projects. 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 \$740,125, which compares favorably with the estimate of \$750,000. SRF committed 18.9% of the effort to be completed by certified Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) firms vs. a project goal of 15%.

Rationale

Professional services contracts in excess of \$250,000 require Council approval.

Funding

Funding is authorized through project #61215. The project was awarded a competitive grant for up to \$600,000 from the FTA 5339 Alternatives Analysis program.

Known Support / Opposition

Local communities have expressed support for the subject study.