

T Transportation Committee

Metropolitan Council meeting of April 13, 2011

Date April 4, 2011
Prepared:
Subject: Software Support Services for Hiawatha Light Rail

Proposed Action:

That the Metropolitan Council authorizes the Regional Administrator to extend the current contract with HSQ Technology for support of the Hiawatha Light Rail Transit Control System for up to three additional 1 year terms (an addition of \$500,496). This brings the maximum contract value to \$795,696 over the entire five year period.

Summary of Committee Discussion / Questions:

Bruce Fenlason, Metro Transit Director, Rail Systems Maintenance presented this item.

Council Member Reynoso questioned whether Metro Transit employees could be trained to provide the support included in this item. Fenlason responded that this option had been looked at in the past, but due to the system sophistication and proprietary nature, this would not be the most cost effective solution.

Motion by Council Member Munt, seconded by Council Member Duininck. This item was passed unanimously. CONSENT

T Transportation Committee

Meeting date: March 28, 2011

Metropolitan Council Meeting: April 13, 2011

ADVISORY INFORMATION

Date:	March 15, 2011
Subject:	Software Support Services for Hiawatha Light Rail
District(s), Member(s):	District 5, Steven Elkins District 7, Gary Cunningham District 8, Adam Duinick
Policy/Legal Reference:	Council Policy 3-3 Expenditures More than \$250,000
Staff Prepared/Presented:	Brian Lamb, General Manager, 612-349-7510 Vince Pellegrin, Chief Operations Officer, 612-349-7511 Sheri Gingerich, Deputy Chief of Operations Rail, 612-341-5660 Dave Hinrichs, Chief Information Officer, 651-602-1443 Bruce Fenlason, Director Rail Systems, 612-341-5627
Division/Department:	Metro Transit Light Rail Systems

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Background

When the Hiawatha Light Rail Transit (LRT) was built, HSQ Technology installed the central control system for the line. This system is responsible for providing control and indication of all field equipment in the Rail Control Center (RCC). Without this system, the RCC would not have the ability to monitor or control field equipment, track trains, or gather required statistics on schedule adherence.

In 2009 this contract was negotiated with HSQ Technology to provide support services for the Hiawatha LRT control system. This contract provided for no cost increase in the first year.

The contract was for one year (2009) with the option to extend for up to four (4) additional 1 year terms. The cost was \$144,000 for the first year with a 5% increase for each additional year. To date \$295,200 has been spent (years 1 and 2) under this contract and has an expiration date of May 25, 2011 unless the option to extend for year 3 is utilized.

Rationale

Without vendor support, Metro Transit would be unable to manage or modify the rail control systems due to the proprietary nature of the software. The software and programs in use are customized for our system and would be difficult to support without direct assistance from HSQ Technology.

Funding

Funding for this contract is currently budgeted under rail operating funds.

Known Support / Opposition

No known opposition.