



Request for City Council Committee Action From the Department of Public Works

Date: May 15, 2012

To: Honorable Sandra Colvin Roy, Chair Transportation & Public Works Committee

Referral: Honorable Betsy Hodges, Chair Ways & Means Committee

Subject: **Nicollet-Central Urban Circulator Alternatives Analysis Consultant Contract**

Recommendation:

That the proper City officers be authorized to negotiate and execute a contract with URS Corporation to provide professional services to conduct an alternatives analysis for urban circulator transit services in the Nicollet Ave and Central Ave corridor in an amount not to exceed \$1,200,000 for the period ending December 31, 2013.

Previous Directives:

- September 23, 2011 – City Council authorized the proper City officers to issue a Request for Proposals for professional services to conduct an alternatives analysis for urban circulator transit services in the Nicollet Ave and Central Ave corridor, pursuant to Permanent Review Committee approval.
- June 17, 2011 – City Council authorized execution of a subrecipient agreement with the Metropolitan Council to accept a \$900,000 Federal Transit Administration grant and provide a \$300,000 local match to conduct an alternatives analysis for urban circulator transit services in the Nicollet Avenue and Central Avenue corridor; authorized FTA certifications and assurances; and passed a resolution increasing the appropriation and revenue source in Project 04100-9010943-321000-CTR716NC by \$900,000 and reallocating \$100,000 of net debt bonds from 04100-9010943 CTR816SG080 to 04100-9010943-CTR716NC.
- July 2, 2010 – City Council authorized the proper city officers to submit an application for federal Alternatives Analysis Program funding and/or TIGER II planning grant funding to conduct an alternatives analysis for an initial streetcar line within the Nicollet Avenue and Central Avenue corridors.
- April 2, 2010 – City Council approved the long-term streetcar network as defined in the Minneapolis Streetcar Feasibility Study Final Report dated December 2007; authorized staff to engage partner agencies and private stakeholders and assemble the appropriate information from existing studies and additional study as needed to determine whether the City should enter into the federal project development process and appropriate phasing; and directed staff to return to T&PW Committee at least quarterly with a report on streetcars.
- March 23, 2010 – T&PW received and filed the Minneapolis Streetcar Funding Study.
- January 22, 2008 – T&PW received and filed Minneapolis Streetcar Feasibility Study Final Report.

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Approved by:

Steven A. Kotke, P.E., City Engineer, Director of Public Works

Presenters: Anna Flintoft, Transportation Planner

Reviews:

Permanent Review Committee (PRC):	Not Applicable
Civil Rights Affirmative Action Plan:	Not Applicable
Policy Review Group (PRG):	Not Applicable

Financial Impact

\$1,200,000 has been appropriated for this contract in Project 04100-9010943-321000-CTR716NC.

Community Impact

Neighborhood Notification: Not applicable
City Goals: CONNECTED COMMUNITIES
Comprehensive Plan: Improving the quality of transit service on the Primary Transit Network is consistent with the transportation goals in the Comprehensive Plan.
Zoning Code: Not Applicable

Background/Supporting Information

In July 2010, the City Council authorized staff to submit an application to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) for a competitive grant program to conduct an alternatives analysis and environmental assessment for urban circulator transit services (including streetcar and enhanced bus modes) in two of the seven corridors recommended in the long-term streetcar network identified in the City's 2008 Streetcar Feasibility Study: Nicollet Avenue and Central Avenue. FTA published official notice of that grant award in March 2011, and a grant agreement between FTA and Metropolitan Council and a subrecipient grant agreement between the Metropolitan Council and the City were executed in August 2011. In September 2011, the City Council authorized staff to issue a Request for Proposals (RFP) for professional services to conduct the alternatives analysis; however, staff was not able to issue the RFP until the scope of work was reviewed by FTA, which was provided in December 2011. Following further discussion with FTA and revisions to the draft scope of work, the Public Works Department issued the RFP on February 17, 2012.

Two proposals were received. An evaluation panel representing Public Works, CPED, Metropolitan Council, Metro Transit, Hennepin County, and Mn/DOT evaluated the proposals and conducted interviews with both proposers in April 2012. The highest quality proposal was selected and their cost proposal reviewed.

Therefore, Public Works staff is seeking council authorization to negotiate and execute a contract with URS Corporation to provide professional services to conduct an alternatives analysis for urban circulator transit services in the Nicollet Ave and Central Ave corridor in an amount not to exceed \$1,200,000 for the period ending December 31, 2013.

Timeline to Initiate Project

1. Grant Application (completed) City submits grant application to FTA FTA announces grant award FTA publishes grant award in Federal Register	July 2010-March 2011 July 2010 December 2010 March 2011
2. FTA-Met Council Grant Agreement (completed) City submits application to Met Council Met Council submits application to FTA FTA approval of Met Council grant application	April-August 2011 April 2011 May 2011 August 2011
3. Met Council-City Subrecipient Grant Agreement (completed) Met Council authority to execute agreement City Council authority to accept funds and execute agreement Met Council/City execute grant agreement	May-August 2011 May 2011 June 2011 August 2011
4. Prepare RFP (completed) Regional partners review scope of work Met Council reviews RFP for Federal compliance City PRC reviews RFP City Council authority to issue RFP FTA reviews scope of work City works with FTA and Met Council to revise scope of work	May 2011-February 2012 May-July 2011 July-August 2011 August- Sept 2011 September 2011 July 2011-Dec 2011 Jan-Feb 2012
4. Procure Consultant Services City issues RFP (completed) Proposals due (completed) Panel completes proposal evaluation (completed) City Council authority to award contract (underway) City executes consultant contract	February-June 2012 February 2012 March 2012 April 2012 May 2012 June 2012