

Committee Report

Transportation Committee



Committee meeting date: August 24, 2026

For the Metropolitan Council: September 9, 2026

Business Item: 2026-146

Master Contracts for Architectural/Engineering Services for Roof, Façade Design, Maintenance, and Inspection Services, Contract 25P326

Proposed action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to award and execute contracts 25P326A and 25P326B for architectural/engineering services that will support Metro Transit Engineering and Construction in an amount not to exceed \$3,000,000 as follows:

Organization	Contract Number	Contract Amount
Inspec	25P326A	\$2,000,000
TKDA	25P326B	\$1,000,000

Summary of Transportation Committee discussion/questions

Metro Transit Engineering and Construction Manager Robert Rimstad presented this item. There was discussion about why this contract award was split into two vendors and different values of the contracts, which Rimstad explained it was due to the specialized work and the potential amount of work in the areas of need upcoming in the Capital Improvement Budget.

Motion by Osman, seconded by Carter, Toni. Motion carried.

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District(s), Member(s): All

Policy/Legal Reference: FM 14-2 – Expenditures for the Procurement of Goods, Services, and Real Estate Policy

Staff Prepared/Presented: Lesley Kandas, General Manager, 612-349-7513
Nick Thompson, Deputy General Manager Planning and Capital Programs, 612-349-7507
Jim Harwood, Director of Engineering and Construction, 612-349-7339
Robert Rimstad, Manager, Engineering and Construction 612-349-7768

Division/Department: Metro Transit/Engineering and Construction

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Background

The Engineering and Construction 2026 – 2031 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) includes approximately \$250 million for capital improvements, including new construction as well as rehabilitation of aging facilities and systems. An essential element to complete this work is the availability of skilled engineering firms to perform this work.

A Request for Proposal was issued on February 3, 2026. A pre-proposal meeting was hosted by Council staff that outlined the solicitation requirements, discussed project specifications, and responded to plan holder inquiries. There were twenty-six registered plan holders, twenty-three consultants, three plan rooms, and ten plan holders identified as minority, woman, veteran, small or disadvantaged business enterprises. On March 10, 2026, the Council received six proposals to be evaluated for the consideration of award.

In accordance with the Brooks Act, the evaluation of proposals followed a two-step process. The evaluation panel ranked and selected the most technically qualified proposers. Following approval of the evaluation panel findings, conclusions, and recommendation, the costing data of the highest ranked proposers were reviewed by a negotiation panel that negotiated pricing and agreed that the final prices have been determined to be fair and reasonable.

The panel recommends the proposals submitted by Inspec and TKDA as the most advantageous to the Council. Work orders for specific projects under these master contracts will be awarded on an as-needed basis.

Rationale

The execution of an engineering contract that exceeds \$2,000,000 requires Council approval.

Thrive Lens Analysis

On Feb. 12, 2025, the Council adopted Imagine 2050, which builds on policy direction in Thrive MSP 2040. Under the Thrive lens this work will advance Sustainability and Stewardship of our existing bus support facilities.

Funding

Funding will be included in future Council authorized capital and operating budgets. Work orders will only be executed after Council budget authority has been approved.

Small Business Inclusion

There are no Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) or Metropolitan Council Underutilized Business (MCUB) goals set for this project. However, the Council strives to ensure equitable participation of minority, women and underutilized businesses in projects and procurements, and strongly encourages the inclusion of small businesses in this contract.

