Transportation Committee

Meeting date: September 25, 2017

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of September 27, 2017

Subject: 2018 Travel Behavior Inventory Household Survey Contract Award.

District(s), Member(s): All

Policy/Legal Reference: 2040 TPP Work Program

Staff Prepared/Presented: Nick Thompson, Director MTS, 651-602-1754

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Division/Department: Metropolitan Transportation Services

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to enter into negotiations and to execute a contract with RSG to conduct the 2018, 2020, and 2022 Travel Behavior Inventory (TBI) Household Surveys for an amount not to exceed $3,900,000.

Background

The TBI Household Survey, a major component of the Travel Behavior Inventory program, will be a biennial survey of all travel for a sample of households in the region. Each household will be asked to record all travel by all household members for up to seven days. Data collection will begin in early 2018 and continue for a year. It will then pause for a year, and resume in early 2020. The 2018 data collection will be a larger sample, comprising approximately 7,500 households, in order to provide meaningful data as soon as possible. Surveys in future years will be smaller (approximately 3,700 households)

The requested action will contract for the 2018, 2020, and 2022 surveys.

Two responsive proposals were received and reviewed by the Evaluation Team. The proposal from RSG was determined to be in the best interests of the Council.

Rationale

The TBI Household Survey will provide data for use by the Council and others in the region for improving the region's travel forecast models and providing information on how, where, and why people travel in the region and tracking how it changes over time.

Council approval is required for execution of contracts in excess of $500,000

Thrive Lens Analysis

The TBI Household Survey consultant selection

- Demonstrates efficient and effective use of public financial resources (Stewardship) by creating a long-term program that can be cooperatively funded in a dependable way.

- The TBI will collect information on travel behavior along with information on race, ethnicity, income, and ability. This Equity data will improve the ability to directly analyze the effect of investments on historically underrepresented

populations. Substantial engagement efforts will be made to ensure participation from difficult-to-reach demographics.

- The regional model, supported by the TBI, is used for justification of major transportation projects, both to quantify their benefits across the region, as well as to enable their actual construction, bringing the Prosperity associated with major transportation investment to the region. The regional model is used to forecast the effect of transportation projects and programs on air quality, pollutant emissions, and greenhouse gas emissions. Forecasts from the model are used both in evaluating Sustainability and Livability of regional plans and also in providing information to local governments

Funding

Total cost of the project is estimated to be $3,900,000. $900,000 of the funding will be coming from Council federal planning funds. The Transportation Advisory Board has programmed $2.7 million for the TBI Program and MnDOT has committed $850,000 in 2019 with an expectation of an additional $850,000 to follow in 2021. Additional Council funding, including all local match, will be committed by the Council in future years through the budgeting process.

Known Support / Opposition

There is no known opposition