



Motion No. M2022-14

On-Call Operations Contract for Light Rail Simulation Modeling and Strategic Advisory Services

Meeting:	Date:	Type of action:	Staff contact:
Rider Experience & Operations Committee	02/09/2022	Final action	Suraj Shetty, Executive Director – Operations Allison Dobbins, Director – Corridor Operations

Proposed action

Authorizes the chief executive officer to execute a five-year contract with five one-year options to extend with HNTB Corporation to provide on-call operations light rail simulation modeling and strategic advisory consulting services for Link Light Rail and Tacoma Link Light Rail for a total authorized contract amount not to exceed \$5,637,500, plus applicable taxes.

Key features summary

- This action would authorize a contract with HNTB Corporation to provide light rail simulation modeling and strategic advisory services to support operations of the existing and expanded system.
- Like its peer agencies, Sound Transit uses sophisticated railroad simulation models to accurately forecast train run times, fleet needs, and other operational requirements. Among other things, output from the simulation models is used to develop operating plans, schedules and staffing forecasts.
- The contractor would also support updates to Sound Transit rail fleet management plans, which are a requirement of Federal Transit Administration (FTA) grant programs.
- Sound Transit plans to award a total of one contract, structured as an on-call contract with individual task orders to be issued in future, to accommodate the anticipated amount and flow of work required to support operations transit expansion over the next five to ten years.
- The requested contract amount includes a base five-year contract and five one-year options. Additionally, the contract includes an option for HNTB Corporation to deliver the light rail simulation models to Sound Transit (for its ongoing internal use), providing all the necessary hardware, software, training, and long-term support.
- Applicable taxes are currently estimated to be \$577,844.

Background

To support the current operation and continued expansion of Sound Transit's high-capacity transit system consisting of commuter rail, light rail, express bus, and bus rapid transit throughout the Puget Sound region, it is necessary for Sound Transit to employ light rail simulation modeling for the Link Light Rail and Tacoma Link Light Rail systems.

The current on-call light rail simulation modeling contract with PHG Wong Engineering, Inc. will expire in May 2022. This existing contract was narrower in scope, covering only simulation modeling. Procurement of a new rail simulation modeling contractor, with staff well-versed in operational strategic

advisory services, is necessary to continue uninterrupted development of operations plans and schedules for the expanding Link system.

In addition to development of operations plans and schedules for the existing Link and Tacoma Link systems and future extensions, the on-call contractor will also support evaluation across a wide range of operational issues, such as how to best support projected ridership and meet passenger expectations for reliable service during normal operation as well as for planned and unplanned service disruptions. Potential on-call tasks could also include the analysis of individual project design elements (e.g., special trackwork) and construction phasing options, maintenance facility assignments for fleet, lifecycle cost analysis/total cost of ownership, maintenance response times, and passenger accommodation for special events/surges.

Procurement information

Prior to issuing the solicitation for these services, Sound Transit considered the project scope, the determining factors for contract award, and the potential need for proposal revisions, discussions, and then negotiations, and determined that a Request for Proposals procurement method for these on-call services was the most advantageous.

Independent Cost Estimate for this contract is \$5,637,500, plus applicable tax.

Sound Transit advertised Request for Proposals No. RTA/RP 0022-21 on October 1, 2021. Sound Transit received competitive proposals from six firms. All proposers are respected firms having worked with Sound Transit. The proposals were evaluated based on the advertised evaluation criteria including Firm(s) Experience and History, Knowledge and Experience of Key Individuals, Project Understanding and Approach, Price, Capacity and Project Organization, and Commitment to and Compliance with Equal Employment Opportunity Law.

The highest ranked firm was selected to enter into negotiations. HNTB Corporation's proposal was evaluated to be the highest rated. Proposed pricing by HNTB was consistent with the ICE, plus other available market data such as existing contracts with Sound Transit and GSA labor schedules. The negotiated pricing was determined to be fair and reasonable.

Sound Transit recommends award of this contract based upon the determination that HNTB Corporation's negotiated proposal best meets the evaluation criteria, offers the best value, and this contract award is in the best interest of Sound Transit.

Fiscal information

This action for \$6,215,344, including sales tax of \$577,844 will be funded from the Services category within the Operations department's annual operating budget.

The Services category budget is \$47,941,820, of which a total of \$750,000 is estimated to be spent from this action in 2022 and is currently within the agency's budget authority. After approval of this

action, the remaining annual budget will be used to fund other department expenditures anticipated in the 2022 annual budget.

Funding for the additional years of the contract will be included in future annual budget requests.

Operations
(in thousands)

Cost Category	2022 Annual Operating Budget ¹	YTD Actuals	This Action (2022 Only)	YTD Actuals Plus Action (2022 Only)	Remaining Annual Operating Budget
Salaries and Benefits	\$39,678		\$	\$	\$39,678
Services	47,942		750	750	47,192
Materials and Supplies	12,968				12,968
Utilities	8,771				8,771
Taxes	3,220				3,220
Purchased Transportation Services	218,973				218,973
Miscellaneous	413				413
Leases and Rentals	1,099				1,099
Total Annual Operating Budget	\$333,065		\$ 750	750	\$332,315

Agreement Spending Plan	Estimated Spending to Date	Forecasted for 2022	Proposed Future Spending	Total
HNTB Corporation	\$	\$750	\$5,465	\$6,215

Agreement Detail	Board Approved Agreement Value	Proposed Action	Proposed Total for Board Approval
HNTB Corporation	\$	\$6,215	\$6,215
Contract Amount - Total	\$	\$6,215	\$6,215

Notes:

¹ 2022 Annual Operating Budget is located on page 57 of the 2022 Financial Plan & Proposed Budget book.

Disadvantaged and small business participation

Participation by small businesses and disadvantaged business enterprises (DBEs)

Sound Transit promotes and encourages small business participation, which also includes disadvantaged business enterprises (DBEs). Small business and DBE goals are based upon an examination of subcontracting opportunities contained in the work of this contract and the number of small businesses/DBEs available to perform such subcontracting work.

Sound Transit determined that there were few small business and DBE subcontracting opportunities based upon the work described in this contract, so small business/DBE goals were not established.

Public involvement

Not applicable to this action.

Time constraints

A one-month delay would not create a significant impact to the project schedule.

Environmental review – KH 1/21/22

Legal review – AJP 1/28/22



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A motion of the Rider Experience and Operations Committee of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority authorizing the chief executive officer to execute a five-year contract with five one-year options to extend with HNTB Corporation to provide on-call operations light rail simulation modeling and strategic advisory consulting services for Link Light Rail and Tacoma Link Light Rail for a total authorized contract amount not to exceed \$5,637,500, plus applicable taxes.

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In addition to development of operations plans and schedules for the existing Link and Tacoma Link systems and future extensions, the on-call contractor will also support evaluation across a wide range of operational issues, such as how to best support projected ridership and meet passenger expectations for reliable service during normal operation as well as for planned and unplanned service disruptions. Potential on-call tasks could also include the analysis of individual project design elements (e.g., special trackwork) and construction phasing options, maintenance facility assignments for fleet, lifecycle cost analysis/total cost of ownership, maintenance response times, and passenger accommodation for special events/surges.

This action would authorize a contract with HNTB Corporation to provide light rail simulation modeling and strategic advisory services to support operations of the existing and expanded system.

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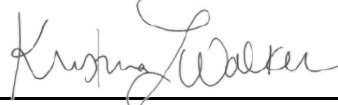
The requested contract amount includes a base five-year contract and five one-year options. Additionally, the contract includes an option for HNTB Corporation to deliver the light rail simulation models to Sound Transit (for its ongoing internal use), providing all the necessary hardware, software, training, and long-term support.

Applicable taxes are currently estimated to be \$577,844.

Motion

It is hereby moved by the Rider Experience and Operations Committee of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority that the chief executive officer is authorized to execute a five-year contract with five one-year options to extend with HNTB Corporation to provide on-call operations light rail simulation modeling and strategic advisory consulting services for Link Light Rail and Tacoma Link Light Rail for a total authorized contract amount not to exceed \$5,637,500, plus applicable taxes.

APPROVED by the Rider Experience and Operations Committee of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority at a regular meeting thereof held on February 9, 2022.



Kristina Walker
Rider Experience and Operations Chair

Attest:



Kathryn Flores
Board Administrator