



## Motion No. M2020-49

### Link Rail Grinding, Polishing and Engineering Inspection Services Contract

Meeting:	Date:	Type of action:	Staff contact:
Rider Experience and Operations Committee	09/03/2020	Final Action	Paul Denison, Acting Executive Director of Operations <b>George McGinn, Acting Executive Operations Director Light Rail</b> <b>Jason Bailey, Manager-Track Engineering, DECM</b>

### Proposed action

Authorizes the chief executive officer to execute a five-year contract with five one-year options to extend with Advanced Rail Management Corporation to provide rail grinding, polishing and engineering inspection services for Link light rail track in the amount of \$24,316,745, plus applicable taxes.

### Key features summary

- This contract will provide rail grinding, polishing, and rail engineering inspection services including geometry inspection, ultrasonic testing, eddy current testing and annual visual rail inspections.
- Rail grinding and polishing restores the railhead profile and minimizes wear on train wheels. It maintains a State of Good Repair for the track, ensures ride quality, and maintains noise and vibration to be within Sound Transit standards.
- Rail engineering inspection reports are used to determine the rail condition and will assist in selection of where to provide targeted rail grinding and polishing activities.
- The work is expected to begin in October 2020. It will be done in the evening using single tracking. Customer impacts will be minimal.
- The amount requested is sufficient to cover the five-year initial term and the five one-year options to extend.
- The current estimated tax amount is \$2,455,991.25.

### Background

The Link Light Rail Track System has been in operation since 2007 (when testing and pre-revenue service began). In 2018, Sound Transit awarded a one-time rail grinding and polishing contract to Advanced Rail Management to perform maintenance grinding on the entire length of the Link Light Rail system. To insure continued high performance, the operating system requires periodic rail grinding and polishing to prolong the life of the rail, improve ride quality, and minimize impacts due to noise and vibration. Rail grinding and polishing needs to be done periodically on the existing rail systems depending on track condition and operating frequencies. This work is necessary to maintain the railhead profile, maximize rail life, improve overall ride quality and to remain in compliance with Noise and Vibration commitments to local jurisdictions and stakeholders.

As the agency opens new extensions in upcoming years, the Rail Grinding program will be utilized to perform initial grind on capital projects prior to entering into service. This program will ultimately improve the overall rail condition to achieve the intended service life.

This contract will provide a consistent and efficient rail grinding services for the capital and maintenance grinding programs. The contractor will provide rail grinding, polishing, and quality inspections to ensure specification compliance and rail roughness measurements. It also centralizes the engineering services around maintaining a state of good repair of the overall rail condition. Operations and DECM are aligning resources to execute the Link rail grinding and polishing with the highest efficiency possible by providing a consistent rail grinding service for both maintenance and capital programs.

## **Procurement information**

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

Sound Transit advertised Request for Proposals No. RTA/RP 0049-20 on June 4, 2020. Two firms submitted proposals, which were evaluated based on the advertised evaluation criteria including Rail Grinding and Polishing Methodologies and Processes, Quality Inspection Methodologies, Process and Reporting; Price; Firm Experience, History, Technical Expertise and Technical Qualifications of Proposed Team; Project Approach, Capacity and Project Organization; and Commitment to and Compliance with Equal Employment Opportunity Law. The competitive process has enabled Sound Transit to realize significant savings on the task order price, while the evaluative nature produced additional grinding options aiding price and timing. The proposal price was nearly a third under the expected price.

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

## **Fiscal information**

Activities in this contract will be authorized by issuance of task orders. Funding source and availability will be confirmed prior to issuance of any task order. The proposed action will be funded from either the impacted capital projects or Services category within the Operations Department's annual operating budget.

## **Disadvantaged and small business participation**

Not applicable to this action.

## **Public involvement**

Not applicable to this action.

## **Time constraints**

A one-month delay would create a significant impact to the project schedule.

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**Environmental review** – KH 8/18/20

**Legal review** – AJP 9/1/2020



## **Motion No. M2020-49**

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 Advanced Rail Management Corporation to provide rail grinding, polishing and engineering inspection services for Link light rail track in the amount of \$24,316,745, plus applicable taxes.

### **Background**

The Link Light Rail Track System has been in operation since 2007 (when testing and pre-revenue service began). In 2018, Sound Transit awarded a one-time rail grinding and polishing contract to Advanced Rail Management to perform maintenance grinding on the entire length of the Link Light Rail system. To insure continued high performance, the operating system requires periodic rail grinding and polishing to prolong the life of the rail, improve ride quality, and minimize impacts due to noise and vibration. Rail grinding and polishing needs to be done periodically on the existing rail systems depending on track condition and operating frequencies. This work is necessary to maintain the railhead profile, maximize rail life, improve overall ride quality and to remain in compliance with Noise and Vibration commitments to local jurisdictions and stakeholders.

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This contract will provide a consistent and efficient rail grinding services for the capital and maintenance grinding programs. The contractor will provide rail grinding, polishing, and quality inspections to ensure specification compliance and rail roughness measurements. It also centralizes the engineering services around maintaining a state of good repair of the overall rail condition.

Operations and DECM are aligning resources to execute the Link rail grinding and polishing with the highest efficiency possible by providing a consistent rail grinding service for both maintenance and capital programs.

The work is expected to begin in October 2020. It will be done in the evening using single tracking. Customer impacts will be minimal. The amount requested is sufficient to cover the five-year initial term and the five one-year options to extend, and the current estimated tax amount is \$2,455,991.25.

## 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 Advanced Rail Management Corporation to provide rail grinding, polishing and engineering inspection services for Link light rail track in the amount of \$24,316,745, 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 September 3, 2020.

  
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Paul Roberts  
Rider Experience and Operations Chair

**Attest:**

  
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Kathryn Flores  
Board Administrator