Business Item

Transportation Committee

Committee Meeting Date: June 09, 2025 **For the Metropolitan Council:** June 11, 2025

Business Item: 2025-86 SW

2025 and 2027 Household Travel Surveys, Contract 24P006

District(s), Member(s):	All
Policy/Legal Reference:	FM 14-2 - Expenditures for the Procurement of Goods, Services, and Real Estate Policy
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Division/Department:	Transportation / Metropolitan Transportation Services (MTS)

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorizes the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute contract 24P006 with Resource Systems Group (RSG), Inc. for consulting services for the 2025 and 2027 Household Travel Surveys in an amount not to exceed $2,710,000.

Background

The Household Travel Survey is a biennial household travel survey that is a part of the region's Travel Behavior Inventory program. These surveys provide vital data for regional travel demand forecasting, transportation planning, and policy development. This contract will conduct two of these surveys.

The Household Travel Survey examines household demographics, daily travel, and typical transportation patterns. Initially conducted every ten years from 1949 to 2010, the study transitioned in 2018 to an every-other-year schedule, leveraging efficiencies and operational improvements to gather more current and detailed data for the Council's travel models. The key objectives include collecting core demographic and travel information for modeling and planning, capturing data on new transportation modes and behaviors, ensuring a representative population sample through a multi-pronged approach, and utilizing new technologies to enhance data quality and detail.

A Request for Proposals was issued on January 9, 2025. A Pre-Proposal meeting was hosted by Council staff on January 16, 2025, outlining the solicitation requirements, discussing project specifications, and responding to plan holder inquiries. There were twenty-eight registered plan holders with seven identified as subcontractors, seven identified as prime vendors, ten identified as other, seven identified as Consultants, and seven identified as suppliers, and fourteen plan holders identified as minority, woman, veteran, small, or disadvantaged business enterprises. The Council received two proposals to be evaluated for award consideration and used proposer quality, qualifications, experience, and price as the evaluation factors. The evaluation panel reached a consensus on April 21, 2025, that the proposal submitted by RSG, Inc. is most advantageous to

the Council.

Rationale

The TBI Household Survey will provide data for use by the Council and others in the region for continually 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.

The action is being requested for same-week approval due to the May 26 Transportation Committee meeting holiday cancellation, to begin the surveys expediently.

The execution of a service contract exceeding $500,000 requires Council approval.

Thrive Lens Analysis

On Feb. 12, 2025, the Council adopted Imagine 2050, which builds on policy direction in Thrive MSP 2040. This contract supports the Thrive outcome of Stewardship by providing tools that planners can use to model future transit investments and estimate resource costs, thereby exercising good stewardship over public resources. This contract also supports the Thrive outcome of Equity by providing data to help planners understand the needs and behaviors of the population across demographic dimensions.

Funding

Funding has been provided through the Transportation Advisory Board and MnDOT through Federal Transit Administration (FTA) grants MN-2023-023 and MN-2023-046 with local matching funds from the Council. It is incorporated in the 2025 Operating Budget and will be included through the budgeting process in future years.

Small Business Inclusion

The Office of Equity and Equal Opportunity (OEEO) assigned a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) goal of 18% for this solicitation. OEEO determined that the firm being recommended for the award met the DBE requirements of this contract