



## Transportation Committee

**REVISED Item #13-6-2  
Action**

June 5, 2013

### **Consultant Selection for Phase 2 of Downtown/Riverfront Transit Study**

**Issue:** Should the Transportation Committee recommend Board approval of a contract to URS for the work on Phase 2 of the Downtown/Riverfront Transit Study?

**Recommendation:** That the Transportation Committee recommend that the Board award a contract to URS for the work related to Phase 2 of the Downtown/Riverfront Transit Study.

**Discussion:** On April 19, SACOG released a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) to seek qualified consulting firms to provide assistance to SACOG for Phase 2 of the project to prepare the technical work to advance the Downtown/ Riverfront Transit project into the formal Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Small Starts project development process. Consultant services anticipated in the Phase 2 contract include the preparation of NEPA environmental documentation and professional support in various other disciplines, including design and engineering, finance, and community outreach. The total budget for the planned work of this project is \$600,000 and is funded by a Federal Transit Administration (FTA) 5307 Flex Fund grant. The duration of the Phase 2 work is estimated to be approximately one year.

SACOG received four statements of qualifications which were evaluated by the project management team (PMT), comprised of representatives from each of the six participating agencies: SACOG, Caltrans, City of Sacramento, City of West Sacramento, Sacramento Regional Transit District, and Yolo County Transportation District. The consultant teams that submitted qualification statements were: URS, Kittelson & Associates, Inc., ASCENT Environmental, and Circlepoint. On May 31, 2013, following the review of proposals, staff conducted interviews. The consultant teams were evaluated by four criteria:

1. Understanding of the background and requirements of the project
2. Overall technical approach and proposed project schedule
3. Allocation of resources and assignment of personnel
4. Education and experience

Staff interviewed all four consultant teams, and following the interviews, the URS team emerged as the unanimous recommendation of the PMT for the contract award. The team is comprised of URS, HDR, Fehr and Peers and AIM Consulting. The team demonstrated excellent qualifications in each of the evaluation criteria identified in the RFQ.

The URS team demonstrated an in-depth understanding of the project and the required work ahead. Members of the team demonstrated a solid understanding of the local issues and also are working on related projects, including the new Entertainment Sports Complex (ESC). With this experience, the URS team will not face a learning curve to become familiar with the issues surrounding the project, and the team is well prepared to transition efficiently from the current Phase 1 work activities.

The URS team has expertise in all technical disciplines sought and is the one team with experience working on Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Small Starts projects. The experience includes active efforts on the Downtown Los Angeles Streetcar project and several other streetcar projects elsewhere in the country. The design, engineering, and environmental analysis experts from URS team offer broad and extensive technical knowledge and experience. The team has been successful on similar projects that were positively received by key federal and state agencies. Local project experience is also an asset of the URS team. Team members have extensive experience working with each of the involved local agencies, including Sacramento Regional Transit, where they have been involved in nearly all of the light rail extension projects in the region. The other bidders did not have environmental analysis experience on FTA-funded Small Starts projects, nor did they offer comprehensive rail planning, design and engineering experience.

At the June 5 Policy Steering Committee (PSC) meeting, staff presented its recommendation to the PSC and received a unanimous endorsement for the Transportation Committee consider. If Board action is received later on June 20, 2013, staff will negotiate with the URS team a detailed scope of work and ensure that the project team can meet the budget requirements of the project. In early July, the Notice to Proceed is expected that will authorize the consultant team to initiate work on the Phase 2 scope of services.

Approved by:

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Chief Executive Officer

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