



Department of Transportation

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City of Madison Common Council

RE: North-South Bus Rapid Transit Design Contract Amendment 1

The North-South Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) project will build Madison's second BRT line between the City of Fitchburg, South Madison, and North Madison along Fish Hatchery Road, Park Street, Packers Avenue, and Northport Drive; including the reconstruction of Park Street between Wingra Creek and Fish Hatchery Road. The estimated total project cost is about \$180 million and will be funded in part by a \$118 million federal Small Starts grant, which is anticipated to be secured by the end of 2026 with a Small Starts Grant Agreement. North-South BRT is anticipated to be built between 2028 and 2030.

The project has accomplished the following milestones:

- Entered the Federal Transit Administration's (FTA's) Project Development phase for Small Starts grant funding
- Adopted a Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA) specifying the route and station locations
- Completed 10% design, 30% design, and 60% design
- Held public outreach and stakeholder coordination activities
- Completed environmental and historic preservation clearance
- Included in the FTA's Annual Report on Funding Recommendations
- Produced documentation required for the FTA's required risk review process

To accomplish these tasks, the City of Madison awarded a design engineering contract to AECOM Technical Services, Inc. in 2023. The contract and associated Resolution 76214 authorized the use of \$7 million for this work. The project was funded using \$6.33 million from the 2023 capital budget and \$0.67 million from a federal Areas of Persistent Poverty grant.

Since this time, additional funds have been made available from the 2024 and 2025 capital budgets to continue work towards completing the North-South BRT project. Addendum 1 would authorize the City to use an additional \$6 million for design services from AECOM to complete the following tasks:

- Complete 90% design, including utility and stakeholder coordination
- Complete final design and Plans, Specifications, and Estimate (PS&E)
- Assist the City with required FTA coordination
- Assist the City with design support through construction

This additional work was envisioned when the 2023 contract was drafted, with a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) that included the full scope of services from preliminary design through final design and construction

support.

The design engineering contract is a “task order” contract, meaning that the City issues individual task orders within the contract to authorize specific tasks to be undertaken by the contractor. As of early 2026, four task orders were completed. The City will issue future task orders as the project progresses. Various design elements may be accomplished by City staff in order to reduce project costs, if staff resources are available. Therefore, authorizing Amendment 1 does not commit the City to spending the full \$6 million until these task orders are authorized.

In addition, proposed Amendment 1 extends the contract term from ending May 25, 2026 to ending December 31, 2030.

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