

Date: August 7, 2006Committee Meeting Date: August 16, 2006Board Meeting Date: August 31, 2006**BOARD MEMORANDUM**ACTION X DISCUSSION INFO

TO: Transit Planning and Operations Committee
 Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority
 Board of Directors

THROUGH: Michael T. Burns
 General Manager

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FROM: Jack J. Collins
 Chief Construction Officer

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SUBJECT: Vasona Light Rail Project
 Soldier Pile and Lagging Wall Contract

RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize the General Manager to execute a contract with Bianchi - Amaker Construction Inc., the lowest responsible bidder, in the amount of \$397,176 for construction of the Vasona Light Rail Project Soldier Pile and Lagging Wall and Miscellaneous Civil Improvements Contract.

BACKGROUND:

The Vasona Light Rail Project Soldier Pile and Lagging Wall and Miscellaneous Civil Improvements Contract will address issues raised since the beginning of revenue service in October 2005. The most significant element of work in this contract is the construction of a wall north of Civic Center Drive in the City of Campbell. In this segment, light rail operates at speeds of 50 to 55 miles per hour. When service began, wind forces created by these operating speeds started affecting an old warehouse located immediately adjacent to the railroad right-of-way. Train speed restrictions are now in place to reduce these affects.

To address this issue, consideration was given to reinforcing the structure of the warehouse, but the business disruption during construction and the cost of this option made this approach difficult. Instead, a wall will be constructed between the track way and the warehouse in the railroad right-of-way to shield the warehouse from the wind forces. The cost of constructing the wall is approximately 50% less than the cost to retrofit the warehouse.

The wall construction will require a light rail service shutdown and bus bridge on 3 or 4 weekends. Construction will take place during daylight hours. No night work will be required. The warehouse business will not be disrupted during construction.

The remaining work in the contract involves incidental sidewalk and pavement improvements, and additional signing and striping.

Construction will begin in September 2006, with completion scheduled for November 2006.

DISCUSSION:

The Soldier Pile and Lagging Wall contract was advertised on May 30, 2006. A pre-qualification program was not used for this procurement because the Engineer's Estimate was below the \$1.15 million pre-qualification threshold. One bid was submitted on July 11, 2006, with the following results:

Bianchi - Amaker Construction, Inc.	\$397,176
Engineer's Estimate	\$397,300
Contract Budget	\$425,000

Bianchi - Amaker construction, Inc. is the only responsible bidder. The bid is approximately equal to the Engineer's Estimate and 7% below the budget. Bianchi-Amaker Construction, Inc. was the contractor on the Tasman East, Capitol and Vasona Completion Contracts. They performed satisfactorily on these contracts as well as other VTA contracts in recent years. Staff recommends awarding this contract to Bianchi - Amaker Construction, Inc.

ALTERNATIVES:

There are no practical alternatives to the recommended action.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Sufficient funds are available in the Vasona Light Rail Project budget to perform this work. This contract is funded by the 1996 Measure B Transportation Improvements Program.

SMALL BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (SBE) PARTICIPATION:

Based on the identifiable subcontracting opportunities, nature of work, and availability of SBE's, including location of SBE firms, a SBE goal of 10% was established for this contract. Contractor met the goal and has committed to an 80% SBE participation on this contract.

Prepared by: Mark S. Robinson, Group Manager – Transit Facilities