

**Metropolitan Transportation Commission  
Operations Committee**

September 9, 2022

Agenda Item 4c

**Contract – Regional Transportation Emergency Preparedness Support - AECOM  
Technical Services, Inc. (\$1,200,000)**

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**Subject:**

Staff is requesting approval of a contract for Regional Transportation Emergency Preparedness Support with AECOM Technical Services, Inc. (AECOM) to assist in executing disaster preparedness and emergency transportation plans.

**Background:**

The upcoming 33rd anniversary of the 1989 Loma Prieta Earthquake (October 17th) marks over three decades of MTC working with the Bay Area's transportation agencies, the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), and the California Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) to develop coordinated, multimodal transportation response plans. During a major disaster, transportation agencies may be called on to provide first responder agencies with resources for life/safety support, while also continuing to provide transportation services to meet the mobility needs of the public. This increased demand for resources, combined with potential damage to the transportation system and disruption of regular services, creates the need to coordinate available transportation resources and prioritize efforts to restore capacity and services.

Since the Loma Prieta Earthquake, MTC has led regional emergency transportation preparedness in the Bay Area. Initially MTC led the preparation of regional plans, which provided detailed definitions of the roles and responsibilities of transportation agencies and county and state offices of emergency management. In recent years, MTC has continued to take a more assertive role in leading regional transportation response and recovery coordination during emergencies while also assisting with funding for responding agencies. Moreover, MTC assisted with the creation of the San Francisco Bay Area Regional Transportation Emergency Management Plan (RTEMP), which defines procedures for interagency communication and decision-making to restore basic regional mobility after a major transportation disruption.

Over the years, MTC and the Bay Area's transportation agencies have conducted 25 region-wide exercises to test regional emergency plans. These exercises have helped prepare these agencies for coordinated responses to several localized events, including the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, North Bay wildfires, 2013 BART strike, 2012 BART West Oakland fire, and the 2007 MacArthur Maze fire. In the coming years the exercises will continue to build upon lessons learned and address the changing procedures and protocols within individual agencies in addition to practicing coordinated responses by transportation agencies, Caltrans, County Offices of Emergency Services, and Cal OES.

**Contract Selection:**

On May 5, 2022, MTC issued a Request for Proposals for consultant assistance to conduct and evaluate ongoing regional transportation emergency preparedness exercises, test the RTEMP, assess all regional emergency transportation plans, and undertake emergency preparedness activities within the Bay Area. The selected consultant will develop a program to be conducted over a three-year period that will culminate in two workshops or tabletop exercises and one functional exercise. This project is anticipated to be completed by June 30, 2025. Notices were sent to over 3,524 firms that specialize in transportation projects and/or facilitating disaster preparedness exercises. A Proposer's Conference was held on May 12, 2022. Three proposals were received from AECOM (Oakland, CA), Ascentra Inc. (Vienna, VA), and WSP USA Inc. (San Francisco, CA).

The evaluation panel, composed of representatives from MTC and BART, reviewed proposals and scored them using the criteria listed below:

- Qualifications and references
- Detailed work plan
- Presentation
- Cost-effectiveness

All three proposals came in under the projected budget for the project, and all the firms appear to have extensive experience in conducting emergency preparedness exercises. However, AECOM came out on top in every evaluation category, and the evaluation panel unanimously recommended AECOM. AECOM team members have worked on several other Bay Area

regional plans including the Regional Emergency Coordination Plan Transportation Subsidiary Plan, Water Emergency Transportation Authority Emergency Operations Plan, and Urban Area Security Initiative Mass Evacuation Plan. Furthermore, team members understand the region's institutional issues, and the proposal was clear and well-written, with sufficient detail. AECOM's proposal also included a staff resource plan aligned appropriately with task-specific requirements. The evaluation panel determined that interviews were unnecessary, as the proposals provided sufficient information to enable the panel's evaluation and selection of the recommended firm.

The table below provides the final ranking based on the panel evaluations:

Ranking	Consultant
1	AECOM Technical Services Inc.
2	WSP USA, Inc.
3	Ascenttra Inc.

**Issues:**

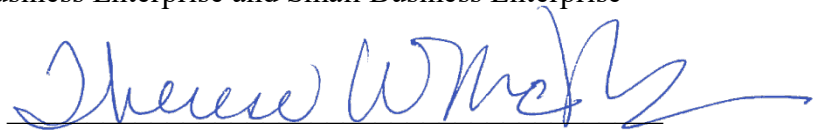
None identified.

**Recommendations:**

Staff recommends that the Operations Committee authorize the Executive Director or designee to negotiate and enter into a contract with AECOM Technical Services Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$1,200,000 to provide Regional Transportation Emergency Preparedness Support.

**Attachments:**

- Attachment A: Disadvantaged Business Enterprise and Small Business Enterprise Status



Therese W. McMillan

Attachment A

**Disadvantaged Business Enterprise and Small Business Enterprise Status**

	<b>Firm Name</b>	<b>Role on Project</b>	<b>DBE* Yes / No</b>	<b>If DBE Yes, List #</b>	<b>SBE** Yes / No</b>	<b>If SBE Yes, List #</b>
Prime Contractor	AECOM Technical Services, Inc. (Oakland, CA)	Lead, technical support	No		No	
Subcontractor	SenseMakers, LLC. (Anaheim, CA)	Exercise support	No		Yes	1758321
Subcontractor	Suhr Consulting (San Francisco, CA)	Exercise support	No		Yes	2028404

\*Denotes certification by the California Unified Certification Program (CUCP).

\*\*Denotes certification by the State of California.

**Request for Committee Approval**

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**Summary of Proposed Contract**

Work Item No.:	6031
Consultant:	AECOM Technical Services Inc. Oakland, California
Work Project Title:	Regional Transportation Emergency Preparedness Support
Purpose of Project:	Provide regional emergency preparedness support and practice the execution of transportation plans.
Brief Scope of Work:	Evaluate the need to update or revise current Bay Area emergency transportation plans; design, conduct and evaluate emergency exercises; assess and revise MTC's Emergency Operations Plan; and provide technical assistance as needed. In addition, the project may include additional disaster preparedness and recovery tasks.
Project Cost Not to Exceed:	\$1,200,000
Funding Source:	Service Authority for Freeways and Expressways (SAFE)
Fiscal Impact:	\$400,000 is approved in the FY 2022-23 agency budget. \$400,000 is subject to approval in the FY 2023-24 agency budget. \$400,000 is subject to approval in the FY 2024-25 agency budget.
Motion by Committee:	That the Executive Director or designee is authorized to negotiate and enter into a contract with AECOM Technical Services, Inc. for the purpose described above and in the Operations Committee Summary Sheet dated September 9, 2022, and that the Chief Financial Officer is authorized to set

aside \$1,200,000 for such contract, subject to approval of future agency budgets, as necessary.

Operations Committee:

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Carol Dutra-Vernaci, Chair

Approved:

September 9, 2022