



RTD Releases Request to Build North Rail Line *Competitive bidding process accelerated for North Metro Line*

DENVER, June 28, 2013 – The Regional Transportation District (RTD) today released a Request for Proposals (RFP) to design and build the North Metro Rail Line. This comes after RTD determined that an unsolicited proposal received in February by Graham Contracting Limited has technical merit, thus providing RTD the opportunity to accelerate its bidding process for potentially building the line.

“Releasing the RFP brings the region one step closer to building the North Metro Rail Line and moves us even further toward completing FasTracks,” said RTD General Manager Phil Washington.

RTD is seeking bids for the design-build project from Denver Union Station to at least 72nd Avenue with options to build further. RTD is also open to proposers’ innovative solutions to completing other unfinished FasTracks projects. Award of the contract will be based on best value, with emphasis on creativity, innovation and financial capacity.

“For the past few years, we’ve been inviting the private sector to come to us with their ideas on how to get FasTracks projects done sooner rather than later,” said Washington. “We are looking forward to seeing how the market once again responds to our call for innovation.”

In January, RTD announced it would release an RFP in October to build the North Metro Line up to 72nd by refinancing some of the agency’s debt, issuing new sales tax bonds and using available local funds. After receiving Graham’s unsolicited proposal, RTD staff spent about a month conducting a comprehensive evaluation of the proposal consistent with the agency’s Unsolicited Proposals Policy and determined that the proposal had technical merit, allowing RTD to move up the RFP release by four months.

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The deadline for proposals is September 23. Following a detailed evaluation process, RTD staff will make a contract recommendation to the RTD Board in late November. Construction is planned to begin in 2014.

The North Metro Rail Line is an 18.5-mile electrified commuter rail line that will connect Denver and Adams County by serving Commerce City, Northglenn and Thornton, and is part of the FasTracks program.

FasTracks is RTD's voter-approved transit expansion program to build 122 miles of commuter rail and light rail, 18 miles of bus rapid transit service, add 21,000 new parking spaces, redevelop Denver Union Station and redirect bus service to better connect the eight-county District. For more information, visit www.rtd-denver.com and click on the FasTracks tab.

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