

SOUND TRANSIT

MOTION NO. M98-44

Federal Government Relations Contract BACKGROUND AND COMMENTS

Meeting:	Date:	Type of Action:	Staff Contact:	Phone:
Finance Committee	6/18/98	Discussion/Possible Action	Sheila Dezarn, Government Relations Manager	206-684-1730
Finance Committee	7/16/98	Discussion/Possible Action		

ACTION:

Approve Motion No. M98-44, authorizing the Executive Director to award contract to Denny Miller Associates for federal legislative and administration representation in Washington, D.C. for period July 1, 1998 through June 30, 1999 with option for three one-year extensions.

BACKGROUND:

Sound Transit currently has a contract for federal government relations services with Denny Miller Associates (DMA) which expires on June 30, 1998. DMA's services were procured under competitive procurement procedures on November 1, 1994, with provisions for extensions through June 30, 1998.

On April 7, 1998 Sound Transit issued a Request for Proposals/Qualifications. The RFP/RFQ was advertised on Sound Transit's web page, the Daily Journal of Commerce and Passenger Transport. Notices were also mailed directly to a list of firms that provide these types of services. Sound Transit received statements of qualifications from two firms proposing to contract for these services.

Senior government relations staff from King County and Pierce County assisted Sound Transit staff in reviewing and evaluating the proposals. Selection criteria included, but were not limited to: (1) the extent of each proposer's working relationships with, and past assistance to, key members and staff of the U.S. Congress involved in public transportation issues including the Washington delegation and members of Appropriations, Banking, Transportation and Infrastructure, and key officials and staff of the Federal Transit Administration; (2) the proposer's level of experience in providing legislative and administrative services to clients before the U.S. Congress and federal agencies on legislation related to public transportation in general and "New Starts" projects in particular; and (3) proposed fees.

All members of the evaluation team rated DMA's proposal as being clearly superior. The fees proposed by each team were comparable to each other.

SOUND TRANSIT

MOTION NO. M98-44

A motion of the Board of the Regional Transit Authority authorizing the Executive Director to execute a contract for consultant services for federal government relations to Denny Miller Associates for an amount not to exceed \$149,000.00 for the period July 1, 1998 through June 30, 1999 with the provision for three additional one-year extensions and a contract maximum of \$633,000.00.

BACKGROUND:

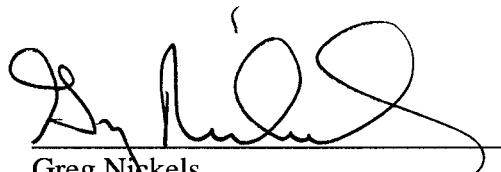
The Sound Move finance plan assumes federal funding to help implement the program of investments in the Ten-Year Regional Transit Plan. This motion would secure consultant services of the firm Denny Miller Associates to represent the agency's interests with members and committees of the U.S. Congress – and specifically with members of the Washington delegation – and with Executive Branch agencies – specifically the Federal Transit Administration. Having Sound Transit's interests represented with these entities is essential for securing federal funding.

Staff recommends awarding an initial one-year contract for the period July 1, 1998 through June 30, 1999 for \$144,000.00 plus up to \$5,000.00 in authorized direct costs, with the option of three additional one-year extensions (i.e., through June 30, 2002) and a contract maximum of \$633,000.00.

MOTION:

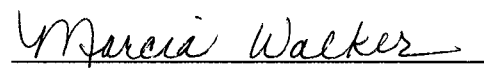
It is hereby moved by the Finance Committee of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority that the Executive Director be authorized to award a contract for consultant services for federal government relations to Denny Miller Associates for an amount not to exceed \$149,000.00 for the period July 1, 1998 through June 30, 1999, with the provision for three one-year extensions and a contract maximum of \$633,000.00.

Approved by the Finance Committee of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority at a regular meeting thereof on the 16th day of July, 1998.



Greg Nickels
Finance Committee Chair

ATTEST:



Marcia Walker
Board Administrator