

SOUND TRANSIT

MOTION NO. M2000-24

**Increase Scope of Work and Contract Maximum
for Federal Government Relations Contract
BACKGROUND AND COMMENTS**

Meeting:	Date:	Type of Action:	Staff Contact:	Phone:
Government Affairs Task Force	2/18/2000	Discussion/Recommend Finance Committee Approval	Sheila Dezarn, Government Relations Manager	206-289-5071
Finance Committee	3/2/2000	Discussion/Possible Action		

ACTION:

Approval to increase the previously approved maximum amount of the contract with Denny Miller Associates (DMA) by \$30,000 (from \$633,000 to \$663,000) for increased scope of work for federal legislative and administrative representation in Washington, DC for the period December 15, 1999 through December 31, 2000; to accelerate the full expenditure of the contract maximum from June 30, 2002 to December 31, 2000; and to authorize the Executive Director to extend the existing contract period for six months to December 31, 2000.

BACKGROUND:

Sound Transit currently has a contract for federal government relations services with Denny Miller Associates (DMA). This contract was approved in Motion No. M98-44 by the Finance Committee on July 16, 1998. Motion No. M98-44 authorized Sound Transit's Executive Director to award a contract for the period July 1, 1998 through June 30, 1999, with options for three one-year extensions, and a contract maximum amount of \$633,000 through June 30, 2002.

During the first year of the contract (July 1998 through June 1999) DMA was compensated at the rate of \$12,000.00 per month plus \$5,000.00 in direct costs for a total of \$149,000.00

Sound Transit exercised a one-year extension on July 1, 1999 (for the period through June 30, 2000), amending the contract to compensate DMA at the increased rate of \$13,000.00 per month, plus \$5,000.00 in direct costs.

Sound Transit's federal objectives for the year 2000 are of a significantly higher magnitude than prior years. They include:

1. Inclusion of Link in the Administration's FY 01 budget request, submitted to Congress in February 2000.
2. Securing a significantly larger appropriation for Link in the FY 01 Transportation Appropriations bill than in prior years, plus appropriations for Sounder and ST Express.
3. Negotiation and execution of a Full Funding Grant Agreement for the Link MOS1 from authorized TEA21 funds, including expeditious review by four Congressional committees prior to adjournment in October 2000.

These objectives necessitate a significantly higher level of effort and increased resources directed to their achievement. Staff is recommending that DMA's scope of work be expanded and an increased level of services be procured through the end of 2000. This increased scope of work and additional services require a six month extension of the existing contract period, an increase in the contract maximum, and a full and accelerated expenditure of the contract.

Specifically, staff is proposing to increase the level of DMA resources working on Sound Transit's federal program this year. Further, staff proposes that DMA subcontract with The Petrizzo Group for additional support on all aspects of this effort. DMA will also be required to coordinate with Sound Transit and outside counsel regarding issues related to the negotiation and execution of the Full Funding Grant Agreement with the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and its subsequent review by Congress.

RELEVANT BOARD POLICIES AND PREVIOUS ACTIONS TAKEN:

- ◆ Adoption of Sound Move, The Ten-Year Regional Transit System Plan (May 31, 1996)
- ◆ Adoption of Motion No. 98-44, July 16, 1998

(Motion No. No. M98-44 authorized 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 through June 30, 2002.)

- ◆ Adoption of Fiscal Year 2000 Budget, November 18, 1999

(Resolution No. R99-33 includes \$260,000 for federal government relations services.)

KEY FEATURES:

- ◆ Authorizes additional resources for an expanded scope of work and procurement of additional resources from DMA based on increased level of effort needed to achieve the agency's federal objectives for the year 2000. This expanded scope includes the following activities:

Increased Strategic Advice/Planning/Coordination – Coordinate the development of a strategy for Sound Transit's federal affairs for 2000, including coordination with subconsultants and other consultants assisting Sound Transit in the development of its federal program (e.g., FFGA negotiations with the FTA).

Increased liaison work with Congressional Appropriations Committees – Advise and assist Sound Transit -- and our congressional delegation – to have expanded interaction necessary to: (a) secure FY 01 appropriations; and (b) expeditious review by the subcommittees of Sound Transit's Full Funding Grant Agreement.

Increased liaison work with Congressional Authorizing Committees – Advise and assist Sound Transit and our congressional delegation in efforts to interact with members and staff of the Senate Committee on Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs and the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee as the committees review Sound Transit's Full Funding Grant Agreement.

Liaison to the Clinton/Gore Administration and expanded interaction with federal agencies - Support and assist with interactions with the White House, the FTA, the Secretary of Transportation's office,

and the Office of the Vice President in order to achieve (a) inclusion of Link included in the Administration's FY 01 budget in February; (b) a fully negotiated FFGA by late summer so that it can be transmitted to Congress for review; and (c) a fully executed FFGA so that it can be announced by the Administration in the fall.

- ◆ In addition to procuring more DMA resources, DMA will subcontract to The Petrizzo Group for additional support on all aspects of this effort.
- ◆ Staff will return to the Government Affairs Task Force and the Finance Committee at the end of 2000 to discuss the agency's 2001 federal objectives and to recommend the level of services/funding required to achieve those objectives.

COST:

- ◆ Increases DMA compensation by \$22,000.00 per month to a new rate of \$35,000.00 per month plus \$5,000.00 per year in direct expenses (i.e., authorized travel or fees for workshops or conferences).

FUNDING:

- ◆ The Fiscal Year 2000 budget includes \$260,000 for federal government relations services. The Public and Government Affairs Department will use contingency funds as necessary and will work with the Finance Department to manage the department's budget and the agency's budget to accommodate the difference between the 2000 budget allowance and the projected increase.
- ◆ This motion increases the previously-approved contract maximum amount by \$30,000.00 -- from \$633,000.00 to \$663,000.00. The motion also authorizes an accelerated expenditure of the full contract maximum amount by a year and a half, from June 30, 2002 to December 31, 2000.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Do not approve increased scope and contract maximum; seek achievement of federal objectives with existing level of effort and resources.
2. Do not approved increased scope; direct staff to reprocure.

CONSEQUENCES OF DELAY:

A delay could hinder Sound Transit's efforts to (a) maximize federal funding during the appropriations markup process by the congressional appropriations subcommittees; (b) engage in discussions with staff from the four congressional committees that will review our Full Funding Grant Agreement later this year; and (c) successfully negotiate and execute a Full Funding Grant Agreement with the Federal Transit Administration, including the requisite Congressional review.

LEGAL REVIEW:

MBL 2-10-2000

SOUND TRANSIT

MOTION NO. M2000-24

A motion of the Finance Committee of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority authorizing the Executive Director to increase the maximum amount of the contract with Denny Miller Associates (DMA) by \$30,000 (from \$633,000 to \$663,000) for increased scope of work for federal legislative and administrative representation in Washington, DC; to accelerate full expenditure of the contract maximum; and authorizing the Executive Director to extend the existing contract period for six months.

Background:

Sound Transit currently has a contract for federal government relations services with Denny Miller Associates (DMA). This contract was approved in Motion 98-44 by the Finance Committee on July 16, 1998. Motion 98-44 authorized Sound Transit's Executive Director to award a contract for the period July 1, 1998 through June 30, 1999, with options for three one-year extensions, and a contract maximum of \$633,000.00 through June 30, 2002.

Sound Transit's federal objectives for the year 2000 are of a significantly higher magnitude than prior years -- inclusion of Link in the FY 01 Administration budget submitted to Congress in February; negotiation and execution of a Full Funding Grant Agreement by October; and securing significantly higher appropriations for FY 01. These objectives necessitate an increased level of effort and greater resources directed to their achievement. Staff recommends that (1) DMA's scope of work be expanded and an increased level of services procured through the end of 2000; and (2) that DMA contract with The Petrizzo Group for additional support on all aspects of this effort.


Staff recommends that DMA's compensation be increased by \$22,000.00 per month to a new rate of \$35,000.00 per month plus \$5,000.00 per year in direct expenses (i.e., authorized travel or fees for workshops or conferences).

Motion:

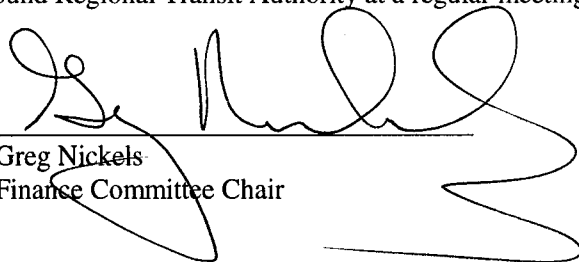
It is hereby moved by the Finance Committee of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority that the Executive Director be authorized to increase the approved maximum amount of the contract with Denny Miller Associates (DMA) by \$30,000 (from \$633,000 to \$663,000) for increased scope of work for federal legislative and administrative representation in Washington, DC for the period December 15, 1999 through December 31, 2000; that the full expenditure of the contract maximum be accelerated from June 30, 2002 to December 31, 2000; and that the Executive Director is authorized to extend the existing contract period for six months to December 31, 2000.

Approved by the Finance Committee of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority at a regular meeting thereof on the 2 day of March, 2000.

ATTEST:



Marcia Walker
Board Administrator



Greg Nickels
Finance Committee Chair