



## **MRA Project Summary**

February 22, 2023

**Urban Renewal District:** URD III

**City Council Ward:** 3, 4, 5

**Neighborhood:** Southgate Triangle, Lewis & Clark, Rose Park

**Name of Project:** Brooks Street BRT/TOD RAISE Grant Planning Study

**Project Location:** Brooks Street

**Federal Investment:** \$847,000

**TIF Investment:** \$50,000; **Mountain Line Investment:** \$30,000

**Project Description:** Detailed planning analysis of the bi-directional, fixed-route, center-running bus-rapid transit concept on Brooks Street identified in a previous study, with the goal of moving that concept to the preliminary design (15%)

**Alignment with URD Adopted Plan & Current Strategic Plan or Goals:** This project aligns with goals in the URD III Plan to enhance multi-modal transportation and encourage robust commercial and infill development along the Brooks Street corridor.

**Alignment with City of Missoula Strategic Plan or Goals:** This project aligns with City of Missoula 2020–2023 Strategic Plan strategic goals to: design and implement transportation infrastructure to support a safe, healthy and active community; prioritize infrastructure development that promotes equitable growth; and support sustainable growth initiatives.

**Alignment with Other City or Neighborhood Adopted Plans:** This project is a follow-on to a series of previous plans, beginning with the 2003 Urban Land Institute study that established the basis for establishment of URD III, and more recently the 2016 *Brooks Street Corridor Study* and the 2019 *Brooks Street TOD Infrastructure Study*. It also aligns with the vision in the City's Growth Policy to "grow inward."

**Unique Public Purpose or Benefit:** Fixed-route bus-rapid transit with safety and multi-modal transportation improvements on Brooks Street, with the goal of achieving transit-oriented development in Midtown Missoula.



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** MRA Board

**FROM:** Annette Marchesseault, RLA *ARM*  
Project Manager/Redevelopment Specialist

**DATE:** February 22, 2023

**SUBJECT:** **Brooks Street BRT/TOD RAISE Grant Planning Study (URD III Wards 3, 4, 5) – Request to Enter into a Professional Services Agreement with HDR**

The Selection Committee for the Brooks Street BRT/TOD RAISE Grant Planning Study interviewed two consulting teams – one led by HDR and one led by Stantec – on January 9, 2023. Selection Committee members included: Ellen Buchanan and Annette Marchesseault (MRA); Corey Aldridge and Colin Woodrow (Mountain Line), and Jeremy Keene and Aaron Wilson (Missoula Department of Public Works and Mobility).

The Selection Committee was pleased with both teams and felt that both were very qualified to lead the project. It was a difficult decision. Upon thorough evaluation the Selection Committee selected the HDR team as the preferred consultant.

Funding for the Brooks Street BRT/TOD RAISE Grant Planning Study is being provided through an \$847,000 U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) planning grant being administered through the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), and local matching funds provided by MRA (\$50,000) and Mountain Line (\$30,000) – for a total project budget of \$927,000.

MRA will provide primary project management from the client side. While Mountain Line is the Recipient of the RAISE planning grant, MRA has entered into a Sub-Recipient agreement with Mountain Line which establishes Mountain Line as a pass-through entity and authorizes MRA to lead the project. The MRA Board approved entering into this Sub-Recipient Agreement at its September 15, 2022 meeting.

Staff has coordinated with the Selection Committee to negotiate a detailed project scope and fee with HDR. Primary tasks include: Project Management; Stakeholder Engagement and

Involvement; Concept Planning, Design, and Engineering; and Cost Estimating and Funding Strategies.

The negotiated fee is \$887,750, approximately four percent (4%) below the amount of funding available. This savings will be reserved as a contingency to cover unexpected tasks if necessary.

Staff is requesting Board approval to enter into a three-party professional services agreement in the amount of \$887,750 – with MRA and Mountain Line as co-clients and HDR as the consultant – to conduct the Brooks Street BRT/TOD RAISE Grant Planning Study.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Staff recommends that the MRA Board approve its request to enter into a three-party Professional Services Agreement in an amount not to exceed \$887,750 – with MRA and Mountain Line as co-clients and HDR as the consultant – to conduct the Brooks Street BRT/TOD RAISE Grant Planning Study, pending approval by the Mountain Line Board, and authorize the Board Chair to sign the agreement.