

## MTA Opens Bids for Valley's Metro Rapid Transitway

- See metro.net report: [MTA Eying 5 North-South Rapid Transit Corridors in Valley](#)

(Dec. 6, 2002) The Metro Rapid Transitway – the east-west busway that will connect the North Hollywood Metro Red Line station and Warner Center in the San Fernando Valley – took an important step forward, Thursday.

With some 60 people in attendance, MTA Senior Contract Administrator Robert Sechler opened two bids for design and construction of the Transitway. The MTA estimate for the 14-mile project was between the high bid and the low bid.

MTA plans to award the construction contract later this month and issue a Notice to Proceed with construction of the project by mid-January, 2003. The Transitway is expected to open for service in spring, 2005.

Although Project Manager Roger Dames emphasizes that the bids have not yet been analyzed for responsiveness and responsibility, the apparent low bidder for the design-build project is Shimmick-Obayashi Joint Venture. The only other bidder was Granite-Brutoco Joint Venture. Both bidders already had passed the technical qualifications step in the two-step procurement process.

"These are preliminary numbers," Dames said. "We'll have to evaluate a lot of other documents that were submitted with the bids." Those include documents pertaining to MTA's disadvantaged business enterprise goals and subcontractor qualifications.

Shimmick-Obayashi submitted a bid of \$153.45 million if MTA provides project insurance and \$154.45 million if the joint venture provides it. Granite-Brutoco submitted bids of \$198.85 million with owner's insurance and \$199.96 million if the joint venture provides insurance.

MTA's estimate for construction of the project is \$169.15 million if the agency provides insurance and \$170.8 million if the construction firm provides insurance.

Under MTA's plan, the successful bidder will develop a final design based on the agency's requirements and then will carry out construction of the project. This increasingly popular design-build approach is expected to be applied to other major MTA projects over the next few years.

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Senior Contract Administrator Robert Sechler announces the bids for construction of the Metro Rapid Transitway as Contract Administrator Bonnie Borchardt posts them for the audience.