

ATTACHMENT B (October 2020)

OIG REPORT/ SPOT CHECK # MOD #	RECOMMENDATIONS	MANAGEMENT'S RESPONSES	COMPLETION DATE
<p>October 2020 #1 Contract C0988 MOD-00485 Crenshaw/LAX Transit Corridor Project Case 5 Bedding Required by LABOE</p>	<p>Since the 'Green book' states the support and materials for sewer and storm drain pipe are to be encased in concrete, the OIG recommends that the LA Metro rail standard drawing US-014, be updated to reflect the required City standard and Metro may negotiate with the LABOE to adopt a different standard for specific projects as warranted.</p> <p>We further recommend, as discussed in previous reports, that Metro study the large discrepancies between the Metro ICE and the award amounts to determine if there is a method by which those discrepancies can be narrowed. This recommendation applies to many of the Spot Checks reviewed in this Report, and is based also on a Metro audit completed by the Management Audit Services Department that noted significant discrepancies in these amounts to be a frequent occurrence.</p>		
<p>October 2020 #2 Contract C1045 MOD-00111 Purple Line Extension Sect. 1 Fairfax Paleo Zone Modified Limits</p>	<p>The OIG recommends future GBR's include a more comprehensive underground site assessment to determine a better approximation of the marine and paleo geological layers. In this instance, a robust underground assessment would have avoided the costly change order. However, the additional excavation costs would have been included in the higher base bid value.</p>		
<p>October 2020 #3 Contract C1120 MOD-00080 Purple Line Extension Sect. 2 Demobilization and Remobilization due to COBH Moratorium</p>	<p>The MOA between Metro and COBH imposes additional restrictions on Metro and adds costly change orders to the original contract.</p> <p>The OIG recommends Metro adopts a standardized MOA for use in negotiations with all jurisdictions within Los Angeles County and utilizes this agreement for every construction project going forward in each respective jurisdiction and that budget estimates for projects should be revised as necessary to take into consideration MOAs entered into.</p>		
<p>October 2020 #4 Contract C1151 MOD-00073 Purple Line Extension Sect. 3 Increase Ground Water Treatment Plant Capacity at Tail Track Exit Shaft</p>	<p>It is the OIG's understanding that water pump tests and water quality tests were performed, but they were performed at the original location, the Army Reserve site, which is no longer the correct shaft location. Now the site is at the Veterans Administration property. A change in location can greatly affect both the levels and quality of the groundwater, thus increasing the revised dewatering process.</p> <p>It is critical that the Real Estate Department be included at the earliest possible time in negotiating the property requirements for a project. Having to change location plans after a contract award can have significant scheduling and expense consequences.</p>		

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October 2020 #5 Contract C1151 MOD-00073 Purple Line Extension Sect. 3 Addition of Sepulveda Staging Area to Compensate VA Site Reduction	<p>The Purple Line Extension 3 was a 'next decade project' and was accelerated to be completed in the next 5 years with many project processes that had to be compressed to meet the schedule. We also understand that the real estate acquisition process is contingent on the funding being in place.</p> <p>The real estate acquisition process and all other real estate arrangements must be negotiated as early as possible and negotiate those property rights strategically to ensure we have our real estate needs met at the earliest and least expensive manner possible.</p>		

ATTACHMENT B (August 2020)

OIG REPORT/ SPOT CHECK # MOD #	RECOMMENDATIONS	MANAGEMENT'S RESPONSES	COMPLETION DATE
August 2020 #1 Contract C1045 MOD-00095 Purple Line Extension Sect. 1 Transit Project: Phase 5 Golder EOR Mitigation Plan Implementation	<p>The OIG is in agreement with applying extra safety precautions that the Metro project office has put forward. Where conditions are relatively unique to the tunneling industry, more prescriptive specifications for means and methods in these zones is warranted.</p> <p>Since the Contractor, Golder Gas, performed the entire mitigation plan including removal and mitigation, the OIG recommends that LA Metro ensure that Golder Gas is held contractually, jointly, and severally liability for any future incident involving gas in the area where the soil vapor extraction wells and the monitoring wells are installed and abandoned. This is the common practice in environmental cases where a "consulting expert" is hired to monitor and mitigate a hazardous substance issue.</p>	<p>The Section 1 Project will review the indemnification text issued to Golder that was required by STS in order for Golder to proceed with the work. This indemnification will determine what Golder's future obligations are.</p>	
August 2020 #2 Contract C1045 MOD-00106 Purple Line Extension Sect. 1 Center Muck Shaft at La Brea (ECI-03)	<p>The OIG recognizes that this type of shaft at the La Brea station can serve a legitimate purpose and that the OIG recommends that use of such methods should be considered and contemplated in future project specifications and a reserve for same should be made when the savings in time, expense, and safety outweigh the cost of such a shaft.</p>	<p>OIG comment received will be included in the lessons learned.</p>	
August 2020 #3 Contract C1045 MOD-00107 Purple Line Extension Sect. 1 Center Muck Shaft at La Brea (ECI-03)	<p>The OIG is concerned that a bid of 40% over an ICE, when you are in a noncompetitive circumstance, may not be a good faith offer or bad communication on specifications. Such behaviors can have the effect of damaging a relationship during an early phase of construction and create distrust that can harm project collaboration in the future. We appreciate a contractor's willingness to proceed on work even without a commitment from Metro in some cases for the payment for that work, but recommend the contractor exercise greater care in formulating its proposals and that Metro be clear and fair but diligent and firm in its ICE calculations and negotiations stance.</p>	<p>OIG comment received. Contractor will be reminded to have appropriate personell attend the fact finding and provide timely complete CSP in order to resolve issues in a collaborative manner.</p>	

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OIG REPORT/ SPOT CHECK # MOD #	RECOMMENDATIONS	MANAGEMENT'S RESPONSES	COMPLETION DATE
<p>August 2020 #4 Contract C1120 MOD-00073 Purple Line Extension Sect. 2 Century City Constellation Station Track work Extension</p>	<p>1. The OIG is concerned that a bid is almost 3 times over the ICE, when you are in a noncompetitive circumstance, may not be a good faith offer or bad communication on specifications. Such behaviors can have the effect of damaging a relationship during an early phase of construction and create distrust that can harm project collaboration in the future. We appreciate a contractor's willingness to proceed on work even without a commitment from Metro in some cases for the payment for that work, but recommend the contractor exercise greater care in formulating its proposals and that Metro be clear and fair but diligent and firm in its ICE calculations and negotiations stance.</p> <p>LA Metro is having to absorb the cost of track extension change orders that arose due to errors and omissions on the part of the engineering consultant WSP. The OIG was informed that WSP miscalculated the braking distance in the initial project definition drawings that were supplied to the construction contractor. Metro will have to cover this expense with the contractor, but should look to the design engineering firm for reimbursement to Metro of the costs it would not have had to otherwise incur less amounts saved or mitigations.</p> <p>2. The OIG additionally recommends that Metro review the current Metro Rail Design Criteria (MRDC) compared to the newly released FRA track design standards for accommodating a train entering a stub-end to determine if any modification or update to our MRDC is warranted.</p>	<p>1. If a Cost and Schedule Proposal (CSP) is significantly higher than the Independent Cost Estimate (ICE), Metro's Contract Administrator and the Project Team engages in further meetings with the Contractor to clarify scope in order to determine the source of the discrepancies between the two estimates. These meetings are professional in nature, and often result in favorable resolution on a price that is somewhere between the ICE and the revised CSP. This process ultimately leads to the execution of mutually agreed upon Contract Modifications, and avoids costly disputes related to Changed Work.</p> <p>Related to the cost of the change, if WSP had calculated the braking distance correctly, the Contractor's proposal price would have included the cost for the trackwork that was recently added by Contract Modification. As a result, the awarded contract value would have been slightly higher, and the project contingency slightly lower at Notice to Proceed. The only additional cost that this error by WSP may have created is a theoretical premium for paying for added trackwork in a non-competitive environment, which would be difficult to prove. It should be noted that the difference between the executed Contract Modification price and the ICE was about 17%, or \$171,000. As a result, it is likely that it would be difficult for Metro to determine if it paid a non-competitive premium. That said, the recommendation will be discussed with senior executive management in VCM and Program Management to determine if any action against WSP will take place.</p> <p>2. This recommendation will be referred to Metro Engineering for consideration.</p>	

ATTACHMENT B (April 2020)

OIG REPORT/ SPOT CHECK # MOD #	RECOMMENDATIONS	MANAGEMENT'S RESPONSES	COMPLETION DATE
<p>April 2020 #1 C0980 MOD-00161 Regional Connector - Procure Medium Attenuation Fasteners in Lieu of Standard Direct Fixation Rail Fasteners for the 2nd & Broadway Crossover</p>	<p>Regional Connector project is very unique because of all the existing historical buildings above the construction. Noise pollution has become a major concern for urban transit dwellers and authorities. The rule of thumb is a 10decibel technical increase in noise is heard by the human ear as "doubled" in loudness. When constructing underground for tunnels and stations the Environmental Impact Report must remember to always mitigate sound and vibration to protect the potentially impacted fragile surface buildings.</p> <p>The OIG recommends this scenario be written into the Lessons Learned file for future similar situations when constructing under historic or special case existing buildings.</p>	<p>The Regional Connector Project has extensive vibration mitigation elements included in the design where the operating guidway passes nearby sensitive receptors including recording studios, music venues and hotels. The project also requires that noise and vibration monitoring be performed during construction near sensitive facilities.</p> <p>The lesson learned and responded to in the referenced Contract Modification, is that information gathered during construction monitoring should be used to adjust the designed mitigations where field conditions indicate they are necessary.</p>	<p>Completed with issuance of subject contract modification. Equipment to be installed 3rd quarter 2020</p>
<p>April 2020 #2 C1045 MOD-00098 Purple Line Sect. 1 Additional Air Scrubbers at Fairfax Station</p>	<p>The OIG recommends further questioning to Southern California AQMD to determine why on a previous Metro construction contract (at the same location) they set the emission limit at 50 parts per billion, and the published standards are set at an emission limit of 30 parts per billion. On this contract the limits are set at 15 parts per billion. The inconsistency of the emissions limit should be taken under consideration and request in writing from AQMD why the standard emission limit could not be applied to this permit.</p> <p>The OIG further recommends in future construction pre-bid meetings, disclose to all potential contractors that the AQMD permit values necessary for the technical specification, "Temporary Construction Ventilation for Scrubber Units" has varied in the recent past and to verify the amount with an AQMD representative. If possible a commitment needs to be obtained from AQMD by the contractor at the time of submission of a bid amount, that the standard is firm for a defined period.</p>	<p>The emissions limit for equipment was set at the time the Contractor submitted the specific ventilation plan to SCAQMD for permit.</p> <p>The SCAQMD does not have a set standard for hydrogen sulfide, but the states standard is 30 parts per billion. SCAQMD develops their requirements based on specific site conditions. Our EIR states Metro and its contractors will set and maintain work equipment and standards to meet SCAQMD standards.</p> <p>A letter will be sent to SCAQMD for clarification on how SCAQMD can consistently apply emissions regulations for hydrogen sulfide for Metro's future projects.</p>	
<p>April 2020 #3 C1120 MOD-00064 Purple Line Sect. 2 Geotechnical Instrumentation Installation and Monitoring AT&T and Beverly Hills High School</p>	<p>The OIG recommends that the independent estimator visit the field location concerning where the work for this change order will occur. The construction manager should walk the estimator through the scope of the changes for which they are developing a cost estimate. The independent estimate was a 126.7% lower than the negotiated price. Where such significant discrepancies in price estimates exist, either the estimator for Metro, or the estimator for the contractor needs to re-evaluate the scope of the change order.</p>	<p>Agreed. Moving forward the estimating group will endeavor to work even more closely with available subject matter experts to assure a thorough understanding of scope and of the engineering and construction processes involved.</p>	
<p>April 2020 #4 C1151 MOD-00001 Purple Line Sect. 3 Revise the Tail Track Exit Shaft Location from US Army Reserv to Veterans Affairs Property</p>	<p>If the Army Reserve location had been negotiated prior to the contract award, these amounts might have been included in the original bid, although the price then and now might have been the same for this different location.</p> <p>The OIG recommends Real estate arrangements should be negotiated as early as possible.</p>	<p>Metro agrees with the OIG's comment regarding the price of the change. The cost would roughly be the same whether it was negotiated prior to contract award or after award. We agree that real estate arrangements (agreements) should be negotiated as early as possible. The project initiated contact with the property owner for the Exit Shaft property acquisition after the project was identified to be accelerated from the original 2035 Revenue Service Date. Metro did engage in talks with the VA early in the Project but obtaining VA approval to access their property has not been without a few challenges that Metro was able to overcome.</p>	

ATTACHMENT B (January 2020)

OIG REPORT/ SPOT CHECK # MOD #	RECOMMENDATIONS	MANAGEMENT'S RESPONSES	COMPLETION DATE
Jan 2020 / #1 C0988-MOD-00437 Crenshaw/LAX UG1 (H2S) Ventilation Fans - Construction	none		
January 2020 #2 C0980 MOD-00154 Regional Connector - Acoustical Treatments for Areas Not on Finish Schedule	none		
January 2020 #3 C1045 MOD-00089 Purple Line Sect. 1 Development and On Site Validation of the Selected Gas Mitigation Option for M13	<p>While the soil at every site is unique, it is possible to create a standard for testing soils for gasses. There is no current rule or technical specification within Metro criteria for extraction of CH₄ or H₂S from the soil.</p> <p>The OIG recommends after the final report is submitted by the contractor, that a technical specification for testing be developed and written into the MDRC to use in the future.</p>	<p>PLE1 Final M13 Mitigation Report will be forwarded to Metro Geotechnical Department for their review and further processing.</p>	
January 2020 #4 C1045 MOD-00090 Purple Line Sect. 1 Oil Well Investigation In Lieu of TBM Probe Ahead	<p>The implementation of the drilling and magnetometer survey from Section 1 has been incorporated into Purple Line Extension Section 2 and 3 contracts.</p> <p>The OIG recommends that the procedures implemented for locating tanks, pipes and other abandoned waste be added to the Lessons Learned database.</p> <p>The OIG further recommends that Metro evaluates whether to pursue recovery for waste removal costs under CERCLA (Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act, also known as Superfund. Passed in 1980). The OIG recommends that Metro's Engineering Program Management provide information on this matter to Metro's Legal department to assist in making this determination and potentially pursuing this recovery.</p>	<p>PLE1 implemented methodologies for locating known tanks, pipes and other abandoned waste will be added to the Lessons Learned database. PLE1 notes that the hazardous waste removal is relatively small/negligible compared with the overall volume of soil removed. After reviewing the potential ROI on pursuing legal actions against any potential responsible parties for cost recovery the current determination based on the available data is that it is not worth the effort and cost at this time. However, it was decided that Metro County Counsel would provide a preliminary review on the issue and it would be revisited in the future.</p>	