



City of Racine, Wisconsin

AGENDA BRIEFING MEMORADUM

AGENDA DATE: Finance and Personnel Committee, Monday, January 6th, 2026

SUBJECT: Communication sponsored by Alder Horton, on behalf of the Transit & Mobility Director, amending Contract #2024008 for DB E.C.O. North America Inc. Support Services for MARK Passenger Rail Commission and Pre–Corridor ID Activities.

PREPARED BY: Trevor Jung, Transit & Mobility Director

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: The DB E.C.O. North America Inc. consulting team has served as a key partner to the City of Racine throughout the MARK Rail Study, providing essential technical expertise and strategic guidance. As the Study nears completion and the newly established MARK Passenger Rail Commission begins its work, there is a critical need for continued consultant support during the transition period before the project formally enters the Federal Railroad Administration’s (FRA) Corridor Identification and Development (Corridor ID) Program. This amendment authorizes DB E.C.O. North America Inc. to support the MARK Passenger Rail Commission through the planning and delivery of Commission meetings, and to provide technical analysis, research, and service planning necessary to maintain project momentum and prepare for successful Corridor ID entry.

BACKGROUND: Over the course of the MARK Passenger Rail Study, the DB E.C.O. North America Inc. team conducted technical analyses, facilitated meetings of the MARK Rail Technical Working Group and Steering Committee, and supported extensive coordination among local and regional partners. They also provided key assistance to the Steering Committee as it elected to pursue FRA Corridor ID participation and as the MARK Rail Commission was established to oversee the project’s next phase. While the Study’s original tasks are nearly complete, preparation of the Corridor ID application remains pending the release of the FRA Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO). A gap now exists between the conclusion of Study activities and the start of Corridor ID Step 1. During this transition, additional tasks outside the original Study scope are necessary to support the MARK Passenger Rail Commission and sustain project progress.

The DB E.C.O. North America Inc. team proposes a supplemental scope of work to assist the Commission, the City of Racine, SEWRPC, FRA partners, and other stakeholders during this phase. The amendment has two primary components:

1. MARK Passenger Rail Commission

The MARK Passenger Rail Commission will convene public meetings to receive updates, consider key project issues, coordinate with the FRA, and request additional information. DB E.C.O. North America Inc. will assist with planning, preparation, and facilitation of Commission meetings.

2. Technical Support and Analysis

To sustain momentum toward Corridor ID entry, the Commission may require targeted analyses, stakeholder engagement, technical reviews, or additional planning. DB E.C.O. North America Inc. will perform such tasks, with all work authorized by the City of Racine. This work goes beyond the original Study scope and the initial Corridor ID application, such as refining previous analyses based on FRA feedback, preparing supplementary materials, and coordinating with FRA staff until program entry.

BUDGETARY IMPACT: Total amendment cost amount not to exceed \$258,286.72, bringing total contract cost to \$2,258,286.72. Funding available in Congressionally Directed Spending with no local match, account number 60282011 57110 82010.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: That the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized and directed to execute the contract amendment (Contract #2024008) for DB E.C.O. North America Inc. Support Services for MARK Passenger Rail Commission and Pre–Corridor ID Activities.