

Management and Transportation Committees

Special Meeting date: May 23, 2018

For the Metropolitan Council Special meeting of May 30, 2018

Subject: Southwest Light Rail Transit (SWLRT) Green Line Extension Third Amendment to the Cooperative Funding Agreement with HCRRA

District(s), Member(s): All

Policy/Legal Reference: Minn. Stat. § 473.405

Staff Prepared/Presented: Brian Lamb, General Manager, 612-349-7510
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Division/Department: Metro Transit/Green Line Extension Project Office

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council (Council) authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute the Third Amendment to the Cooperative Funding Agreement with HCRRA for the Southwest LRT (Green Line Extension) to:

- Extend the funding agreement to August 31, 2018;
- Increase the amount of HCRRA's share of project funding by \$4,219,863 (from \$63,269,282 to \$67,489,145); and
- Further clarify roles and responsibilities regarding use of contingency, liability and insurance in the corridor, financing federal grant reimbursements and costs associated with the unlikely event of a project shutdown and procedures for collaborative decision making.

Background

In December 2016 the Council and Hennepin County Regional Railroad Authority (HCRRA) entered into a Cooperative Funding Agreement for Project Development Continuance and Engineering Phases (CFA) for an amount not to exceed \$59,900,000. The CFA set forth the terms by which the parties would work cooperatively to successfully complete activities required to complete the Project Development and Engineering phases of FTA's New Starts program.

In December 2017 the CFA was amended to extend the HCRRA share of funding for the Engineering phase and to extend the CFA's termination date from July 31, 2017 to March 31, 2018.

In March 2018, the Council authorized the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute the Second Amendment to the CFA to extend the funding agreement to May 31, 2018 and increase the amount of HCRRA's share of project funding by \$3,369,282 to \$63,269,282.

Southwest Project Office is seeking authority to amend the CFA to provide funding to complete Engineering and apply for the Federal Full Funding Grant Agreement later this year.

Rationale

This amendment provides sufficient funding to allow the Council to continue Engineering Phase activities for the Green Line Extension.

Thrive Lens Analysis

Construction of the Green Line Extension will increase the region's prosperity as it will provide access to 80,900 forecasted jobs and a new transportation option for 55,800 forecasted residents within ½ mile of the planned new stations in addition to the 145,300 forecasted jobs and 35,600 forecasted residents in downtown Minneapolis.

Funding

Local funding for the project engineering phase is fully committed through May 31, 2018. This amendment would extend funding through August 31, 2018.

Known Support / Opposition

The HCRRA Board will take action on the amendment on May 31, 2018.