

# Transportation Committee

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of February 13, 2013

## ADVISORY INFORMATION

Date Prepared: January 29, 2013  
Subject: Authorization to execute agreements with Minnesota Valley Transit Authority and SouthWest Transit

### **Proposed Action:**

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute grant agreements in amounts not to exceed \$4,909,200 and \$604,200 with Minnesota Valley Transit Authority (MVTA) and SouthWest Transit (SWT), respectively, to provide supplemental transit operating funding during CY2013.

### **Summary of Committee Discussion / Questions:**

MTS Principal Financial Analyst Sean Pfeiffer presented this item. Pfeiffer answered questions from Duinick as to the frequency of this action and that this action does not increase service, it builds up the agencies' fund balances. Vennewitz and Lamb further explained the allowable fund balances and MTS and MT balances.

It was moved by Munt, seconded by Schreiber, that the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute grant agreements in amounts not to exceed \$4,909,200 and \$604,200 with Minnesota Valley Transit Authority (MVTA) and SouthWest Transit (SWT), respectively, to provide supplemental transit operating funding during CY2013. Motion carried.

Hearing no objection, Chair Elkins stated that this item could proceed to the full Council as a consent item.

**Transportation Committee**

**Meeting date: January 28, 2013**

**For the Council Meeting of February 13, 2013**

**ADVISORY INFORMATION**

Date:	January 22, 2013
Subject:	Authorization to execute agreements with Minnesota Valley Transit Authority and SouthWest Transit for Supplemental Operating Funding
District(s), Member(s):	All
Policy/Legal Reference:	2013 Unified Operating Budget
Staff Prepared/Presented:	Arlene McCarthy, Director, MTS (651) 602-1754 Amy Vennewitz, Deputy Director, MTS (651) 602-1058 Sean Pfeiffer, Principal Financial Analyst, MTS (651) 602-1887
Division/Department:	Transportation / Metropolitan Transportation Services (MTS)

**Proposed Action**

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute grant agreements in amounts not to exceed \$4,909,200 and \$604,200 with Minnesota Valley Transit Authority (MVTA) and SouthWest Transit (SWT), respectively, to provide supplemental transit operating funding during CY2013.

**Background**

During preparation of the CY2013 transit operating budget, Council staff calculated the amount of Regionally Allocated MVST (MVST above the base 21.5%) that would be needed by the Suburban Transit Providers (STPs) to preserve their existing service levels and increase their target fund balance levels in 2013. The calculation resulted in a recommended amount of \$4,909,200 for MVTA and \$604,200 for SWT. These amounts were included as part of the preparation of the 2013 Transportation Budget.

**Rationale**

The region's projected transit operating revenues currently allow for preservation of existing transit service levels and building target fund balances to the upper ranges (35% for STPs). This request is necessary for MVTA and SWT to preserve their existing service in CY2013 and to increase their target fund balance.

**Funding**

The funding for these grants will be Regionally Allocated MVST. Regionally Allocated MVST funds are MVST funds received by the Council above the base 21.5% due to the 2006 constitutional amendment. The necessary contract amounts are included in the Transportation Division's 2013 Operating Budget.

**Known Support / Opposition**

MVTA and SWT support this action. No known opposition.