

Transportation Committee

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of March 13, 2013

Subject: The Interchange – Authorization to Negotiate and Execute a Grant Agreement

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council (Council) authorizes the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute an additional Subrecipient Grant Agreement (SGA) with HCRRA for transfer of Federal Transit Administration (FTA) funds for the development of The Interchange project.

Summary of Committee Discussion/Questions

Robert Rimstad presented the item.

A motion was then made by Councilmember Elkins and seconded by Councilmember Schreiber and passed unanimously.

Transportation Committee

Meeting date: February 25, 2013

For the Council Meeting of March 13, 2013

ADVISORY INFORMATION

Date: February 19, 2013

Subject: The Interchange – Authorization to Negotiate and Execute a Grant Agreement

District(s), Member(s): District 7, Gary L. Cunningham

Policy/Legal Reference: Minnesota Statutes, section 473.4057

Staff Prepared/Presented: Brian Lamb, General Manager, 612-349-7510
Marilyn Porter, Director, Engineering and Facilities, 612-349-7689
Pat Jones, Asst. Director Facilities Engineering, 612-349-7606
Robert Rimstad, Principal Engineer, 612-349-7768

Division/Department: Metro Transit/Engineering & Facilities

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council (Council) authorizes the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute an additional Subrecipient Grant Agreement (SGA) with HCRRA for transfer of Federal Transit Administration (FTA) funds for the development of The Interchange project.

Background

The Interchange, located adjacent to the Target Field Station, is going to be an intermodal, vehicle and passenger terminal facility accommodating existing light rail and commuter rail as well as future light rail, commuter rail, high speed intercity rail and charter and public bus. An additional LRT platform and public plaza for pedestrians and transit customer queuing are key features of the proposed project as well as LRT storage tracks supporting multiple lines for post-event staging. The success of Target Field and the existing Target Field Station is a key reason for the need of this new intermodal facility.

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) transferred \$6,941,000.00 to the FTA to use for the construction of the Interchange.

A SGA is required with HCRRA to apply this funding to the Interchange project.

Rationale

This action will allow the Council to enter an agreement for a total of \$6.9 million with HCRRA for funding of the Interchange project. The total cost of the Interchange project is \$77.0 million.

Funding

The project is to be funded through financial contributions from HCRRA, USDOT (TIGER III), the State of Minnesota (State G.O. Bonds), the FTA, the Council, the Minnesota Ballpark Authority, City of Minneapolis, Mississippi Watershed Management Organization and additional funding opportunities sought by HCRRA.

Known Support / Opposition

Hennepin County Regional Railroad Authority supports the execution of this grant.