

Transportation Committee

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of December 9, 2015

Subject: Southwest Light Rail (Green Line Extension) – Amendment One to the Restated and Amended Cooperative Funding Agreement for Project Development with Hennepin County Regional Railroad Authority Proposed Action

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute an amendment to the Restated and Amended Cooperative Funding Agreement (CFA) for Project Development (PD) with Hennepin County Regional Railroad Authority (HCRRA) for the Southwest LRT Project (SWLRT).

Summary of Committee Discussion/Questions

Nani Jacobson presented the item. Motion made by Councilmember Commers seconded by Councilmember Munt and approved.

Consent to Council.

Transportation Committee

Meeting date: November 23, 2015

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of December 9, 2015

Subject: Southwest Light Rail (Green Line Extension) – Amendment One to the Restated and Amended Cooperative Funding Agreement for Project Development with Hennepin County Regional Railroad Authority

District(s), Member(s): All

Policy/Legal Reference: MN Statutes, Section 473.399

Staff Prepared/Presented: Brian J. Lamb, General Manager, 612-349-7510
Mark W. Fuhrmann, Program Director for New Starts, 612-373-3810
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Craig Lamothe, SWLRT Project Director, 612-373-3830
Joan Hollick, SWLRT Deputy Project Director, 612-373-3820
Nani Jacobson, SWLRT Asst. Dir, Env & Agmts, 612-373-3808

Division/Department: Metro Transit / Green Line Extension Project Office

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute an amendment to the Restated and Amended Cooperative Funding Agreement (CFA) for Project Development (PD) with Hennepin County Regional Railroad Authority (HCRRA) for the Southwest LRT Project (SWLRT).

Background

In January 2012 the Council executed a CFA with HCRRA that established Council and HCRRA obligations in connection with PD, referred to then as Preliminary Engineering (PE), for the SWLRT Project. The parties amended the CFA in May 2013 to clarify and add several provisions, which included limiting HCRRA's contribution commitment for PD to \$18.6 million (or 20% of the estimated total PD cost of \$93 million). In March 2015, the parties executed a Restated and Amended CFA for PD to refine agreement terms and adjust HCRRA's staff support for the Project during PD.

Based on changes to Project's schedule, the total PD costs are anticipated to exceed \$93 million and HCRRA's contribution commitment of \$18.6 million will be reached by November 2015. An amendment to the Restated and Amended CFA to increase the contribution commitment by approximately \$10.9 million for a total of approximately \$29.5 million was approved by the HCRRA board on November 17, 2015. The additional HCRRA funding commitment is expected to fund HCRRA's share for continuation of PD through June 2016. In addition to the increased contribution commitment, the amendment also includes certain conditions, developed jointly with the County Transit Improvement Board (CTIB), related to Project funding and agency coordination.

Rationale

Amending the Restated and Amended CFA for PD to adjust HCRRA's contribution commitment permits continuation of the PD phase for the SWLRT Project.

Funding

Funding sources for PD for the SWLRT Project are approximately 60 percent CTIB, 20 percent HCRRA, and 20 percent State of Minnesota/Metropolitan Council.

Known Support / Opposition

No known opposition. The Metropolitan Council and HCRRA are committed to working together to deliver the proposed SWLRT Project.