

Transportation Committee

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of September 26, 2018

Subject: METRO Blue Line Extension - Subordinate Funding Agreement No. 6 with the Minnesota Department of Transportation for Design Fees

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council (Council) authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute a BLRT Subordinate Funding Agreement (SFA) No. 6 to the Master Funding Agreement with the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for design fees in an amount not to exceed \$750,000.

Summary of Committee Discussion/Questions

MarySue Abel presented this item. Munt asked if we are currently looking at different alignments that would share less than 60% of the alignment with BNSF. Abel answered that the project office is working with Met Council and Hennepin County officials to discuss alternatives and next steps for moving the project forward.

Motion by Munt, seconded by Barber. Motion carried. CONSENT to Council.

Transportation Committee

Meeting date: September 10, 2018

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of September 26, 2018

Subject: METRO Blue Line Extension - Subordinate Funding Agreement No. 6 with the Minnesota Department of Transportation for Design Fees

District(s), Member(s): All

Policy/Legal Reference: Metropolitan Council's Transitway Guidelines

Staff Prepared/Presented: Brian J. Lamb, General Manager, 612-349-7510
Dan Soler, BLRT Project Director, 651-373-5371
MarySue Abel, BLRT Deputy Project Director, 651-373-5376

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

Proposed Action

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Background

The Council established the contractual framework with MnDOT when the Regional Administrator executed a Master Funding Agreement in April 2015 for the development of light rail transit for the BLRT. Each SFA under the Master Funding Agreement provides a method for the transfer of funds, either from Council to MnDOT, or from MnDOT to Council, so that the Council and MnDOT may carry out their respective BLRT responsibilities. Each SFA defines the amount of funds committed and the specific purpose of the expenditures.

SFA No. 6 between the Council and MnDOT allows MnDOT to reimburse the Council \$750,000 for design work related to completion of 90% civil construction plans and 100% civil construction plans.

Rationale

MnDOT has agreed to cost participation in the BLRT project at an overall amount of \$8.19M. SFA No. 4 previously committed \$3.25M for work related to Bassett Creek Storm Sewer Utility Relocation. Executing SFA No. 6 will provide the Council with \$750,000 for design work related to the completion of 90% and 100% civil construction plans, bringing the total authorized through SFA's to \$4.0M.

Thrive Lens Analysis

The METRO BLRT Extension Project supports Thrive outcomes including livability, prosperity, and equity by providing new access to economic and personal opportunity through the project corridor.

Funding

Minnesota Department of Transportation will reimburse the Council for costs included in SFA No. 6 using (non-federal) funds which will be available FY 2019 and 2020.

Known Support / Opposition

There is no known opposition to this action.