

Transportation Committee

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of June 24, 2020

Subject: Gold Line Subordinate Funding Agreement No. 1 with Washington County for Service Center Design

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute METRO Gold Line Bus Rapid Transit Subordinate Funding Agreement No. 1 with Washington County for Service Center Design in an amount not to exceed \$4,975,000.

Summary of Committee Discussion/Questions

Metro Transit BRT Projects Assistant Director Chris Beckwith presented this item. Chamblis commented that she is pleased with the service center including the workforce center.

Motion by Gonzalez, seconded by Chamblis. Motion carried, **consent** to Council.

Transportation Committee

Meeting date: June 8, 2020

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of June 24, 2020

Subject: Gold Line Subordinate Funding Agreement (SFA) No. 01 with Washington County for Service Center Design

District(s), Member(s): District 12 (Gonzalez), District 11 (Vento), District 13 (Lee)

Policy/Legal Reference: Council Income/Grants Policy 3-2-2

Staff Prepared/Presented: Wes Kooistra, General Manager, (612) 349-7510
Charles Carlson, Director – BRT Projects, (612) 349-7639
Chris Beckwith, Asst. Director, BRT Projects – Gold Line, (651) 602-1994

Division/Department: Metro Transit – BRT Projects (Gold Line Project Office)

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council (Council) authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute METRO Gold Line Bus Rapid Transit (Gold Line) Subordinate Funding Agreement (SFA) No. 01 with Washington County (County) for Service Center Design in an amount not to exceed \$4,975,000.

Background

The Council established a contractual framework with the County on Feb. 13, 2019 when it authorized the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute a Master Funding Agreement (MFA) for the Gold Line on Feb. 13, 2019. (BI 2019-1). Each SFA authorizes a transfer of funds and defines the purpose of the expenditures.

This SFA will transfer County funds to the Council for architectural and engineering services for the proposed Washington County Western Service Center (Service Center). The Service Center would be located at the planned Woodbury 494 Park & Ride Station. This project is being pursued as a Joint Development (JD) through the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), which integrates transit-supportive land uses into transit station construction and allows for additional federal funding reimbursement.

The Council intends to issue an RFP for work to be completed under this SFA, to which DBE goals will apply.

Rationale

This SFA is a necessary contractual mechanism for the transfer of County funds to the Council to fund this additional work. Delivery of this work with the Gold Line would result in design efficiencies for both agencies.

Thrive Lens Analysis

The Gold Line Project supports Thrive outcomes including livability, prosperity, and equity with its investment in high-quality transportation that will make the region more economically competitive by supporting major job creators and increasing workers' access to employment hubs. The Service Center would further support those outcomes by locating vital social and public services on a high frequency transitway.

Funding

The County would fully reimburse the Council for this work.

Known Support / Opposition

The Metropolitan Council and Washington County have executed an MFA, and both agencies are committed to working together to advance the Gold Line Project.

Washington County supports this SFA and is planning a Board action to authorize its execution in June 2020.