

Transportation Committee

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of August 26, 2020

Subject: Operator Apprenticeship Grant Amendment #3

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute grant amendment 3 for contract 2019-222/METRO2018MAI with the State of Minnesota.

Summary of Committee Discussion/Questions

Metro Transit Deputy Chief Operating Officer- Bus Brian Funk presented this item. Zeran asked who decides if the apprentices completed the program and if there was a third party review. Funk responded that Metro Transit is keeping track of milestone achievements (ride alongs, group meetings, etc.) and when all milestones are completed and the first year of employment is complete, Metro Transit notifies the state. Funk continued that there is an established Joint Apprenticeship Committee (JAC) which includes Metro Transit Management and ATU President and Vice President who meet regularly regarding the program. Zeran asked if Funk could speak to Traction Power's apprenticeship, to which Chair Barber stated she could get Zeran in contact with the correct staff. Zeran ask if the training modules and steps for program completion are clear to the apprentices. Funk stated to his knowledge the program requirements are clear and he hasn't heard otherwise. Fredson thanked Funk and staff for assisting with this program as it is a great program and making a huge difference in connecting people to full time employment.

Motion by Zeran, seconded by Fredson. Motion carried.

Transportation Committee

Meeting date: August 24, 2020

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of August 26, 2020

Subject: Operator Apprenticeship Grant Amendment #3
District(s), Member(s): All
Policy/Legal Reference: Council Policy 3-2-2, 3-4-3
Staff Prepared/Presented: Brian Funk, Deputy Chief Operations – Bus (612-349-7514)
Division/Department: Metro Transit

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute grant amendment 3 for contract 2019-222/METRO2018MAI with the State of Minnesota.

Background

Metro Transit is the recipient of grant funding (Minnesota Apprenticeship Initiative) from the State of Minnesota for the Bus Operator Apprenticeship Program. The Bus Operator Apprenticeship program is a second in the nation program to mentor new bus operators during their critical first year on the job. More than 200 newly hired bus operators have entered the apprenticeship since the program started in September 2018. The original grant authorized up to \$500,000 for reimbursable expenses. A 2019 Amendment authorized an additional \$500,000. At this time, the grant has paid approximately \$1,000,000 to Metro Transit for eligible expenses, primarily training. This amendment will allow for additional grant funds, up to \$265,000 to be collected by Metro Transit.

Rationale

This amendment will allow for additional grant funds, up to \$265,000 to be collected by Metro Transit for reimbursable expenses.

Thrive Lens Analysis

- Stewardship: This grant agreement provides valuable financial resources to continue the Apprenticeship program.
- Prosperity: The Apprenticeship program, funded largely by this grant, contributes to the development of a talented workforce who contribute to the regional economy.
- Equity: The grant funding ensures that all new bus operators have access to the benefits of an apprenticeship model with valuable mentor relationships from the start of their careers.
- Livability: This program and grant investment will contribute to the retention of a skilled workforce who will benefit from an improved quality of life.
- Sustainability: Workforce development programs such as this Apprenticeship will ensure that Metro Transit has the appropriate number of skilled staff to deliver our sustainable transit services to the region.

Funding

This amendment will allow Metro Transit to receive additional grant funds up to \$265,000.

Known Support / Opposition

No known opposition.



1. STATE ENCUMBRANCE VERIFICATION

Individual certifies that funds have been encumbered as required by Minn. Stat. §§16A.15 and 16C.05.

Signed: Robin Culbertson

Date: 6/23/20

Grant Contract No. A- 144526

Procure-It #- 56100 PO 3000406622

2. GRANTEE

Grantee Organization Name

The Grantee certifies that the appropriate person(s) have executed the grant contract on behalf of the Grantee as required by applicable articles, bylaws, resolutions, or ordinances.

By: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

By: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____

3. STATE AGENCY

Individual certifies the applicable provisions of Minn. Stat. §16C.08, subdivisions 2 and 3 are reaffirmed.

By: _____
(with delegated authority)

Title: _____

Date: _____

Distribution:
Agency
Contractor
State ' s Authorized Representative - Photo Copy

EXHIBIT 2(b)

METRO2018MAI - SC #144526

Amendment 3

Employer	Number of Apprentices	# of Apprenticeship Programs	Funding per Apprentice	Total Grant Award	End Date
Metro Transit	253	1	\$5,000	\$1,265,000	9/30/2020

Upon request for reimbursement, Grantee will show which of the three categories the expenses are for:

- 1.) Apprentice tools and supplies
- 2.) Off-set related instruction costs
- 3.) Develop registered apprenticeship infrastructure