

# Committee Report

Transportation Committee



**Committee Meeting Date:** July 10, 2023

**For the Metropolitan Council:** July 12, 2023

## Business Item: 2023-132 SW

METRO F Line – Master Partnership Contract with MnDOT, Work Order #12 (22I003L)

### Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute Work Order #12 (22I003L) issued under 22I003, the Master Partnership Contract (“MPC”), with the Minnesota Department of Transportation (“MnDOT”). Under the Work Order, the Council will receive approximately \$2,400,000 from MnDOT for preliminary design services for Trunk Highway 65 to be completed in coordination with the METRO F Line project.

### Summary of Transportation Committee Discussion/Questions

Metro Transit Arterial BRT Project Manager Frank Alarcon presented this item. Carter, Toni asked why design work Highway 65 is being incorporated into the F Line design process but not design work for Highway 47. Alarcon responded that the MnDOT-led planning study narrowed the alternatives to a small universe of alternatives for Highway 65 but that a broader range of alternatives remain under consideration for Highway 47, so MnDOT preferred to lead that work, which will still be coordinated closely with the F Line project.

Motion by Vento, seconded by Morales. Motion carried.



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**District(s), Member(s):** District 2 (Chamblis), District 7 (Osman)  
**Policy/Legal Reference:** FM 15-1 – Income / Grants Policy  
**Staff Prepared/Presented:** Lesley Kandaras, Interim General Manager, 612-349-7513  
Nick Thompson, Interim Executive Director, 612-349-7507  
Katie Roth, Director, Arterial BRT, 612-349-7772  
Frank Alarcon, Project Manager, Arterial BRT, 612-349-7692  
**Division/Department:** Metro Transit / Arterial BRT

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### Background

The Council and MnDOT have entered into an MPC for the period July 1, 2022, through June 30, 2027. The MPC allows the issuance of work orders between agencies to perform services in support of Metro Transit's capital projects.

Work Order #12 will allow the Council, as part of the F Line project, to provide MnDOT preliminary design services for improvements to Trunk Highway 65 in the amount of approximately \$2,400,000. Completing the Trunk Highway 65 preliminary design work under the F Line design contract (22P400) benefits both Metro Transit and MnDOT by streamlining resolution of design issues within the F Line corridor, allowing for the concurrent design of complementary roadway and BRT improvements.

### Rationale

Council Policy requires intergovernmental agreements valued at greater than \$500,000 be approved by the Council.

### Thrive Lens Analysis

The F Line will upgrade Route 10, one of Metro Transit's highest ridership bus routes. Investment in high-quality transit options in the Route 10 corridor will advance the Thrive outcome of Prosperity by making the region more economically competitive through increased workers' access to employment and support to employers by increasing available workforce with affordable,

convenient transportation. The F Line project advances the Thrive outcome of Equity by improving transit access for people with low incomes and communities of color. About 40 percent of Route 10 customers live in low-income households, and over half of Route 10 customers are people of color. Investment in the F Line will provide riders with faster and more reliable service and a more comfortable waiting and riding experience. The proposed action also advances the Thrive outcome of Stewardship by planning for F Line corridor improvements efficiently with regional partnership from MnDOT, Hennepin and Anoka counties, the cities of Minneapolis, Columbia Heights, Hilltop, Fridley, Spring Lake Park, and Blaine, and the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board.

### **Funding**

Funds for Trunk Highway 65 preliminary design services will be provided by MnDOT to the Council through Work Order #12 in the amount of approximately \$2,400,000. The MnDOT funding is separate from the F Line project, and budget authorization is not required.

### **Small Business Inclusion**

There are no direct impacts to small business inclusion associated with the action. Funds conveyed through this Work Order will be used to fund services under contract 22P400. The Trunk Highway 65 preliminary design services completed through contract 22P400 are subject to that contract's DBE goal.





# METRO F Line - Trunk Highway 65 Partnership with MnDOT

Transportation Committee, Business Items 2023-125 SW and 2023-132 SW

Frank Alarcon, Project Manager, Arterial BRT | July 10, 2023



# Proposed actions

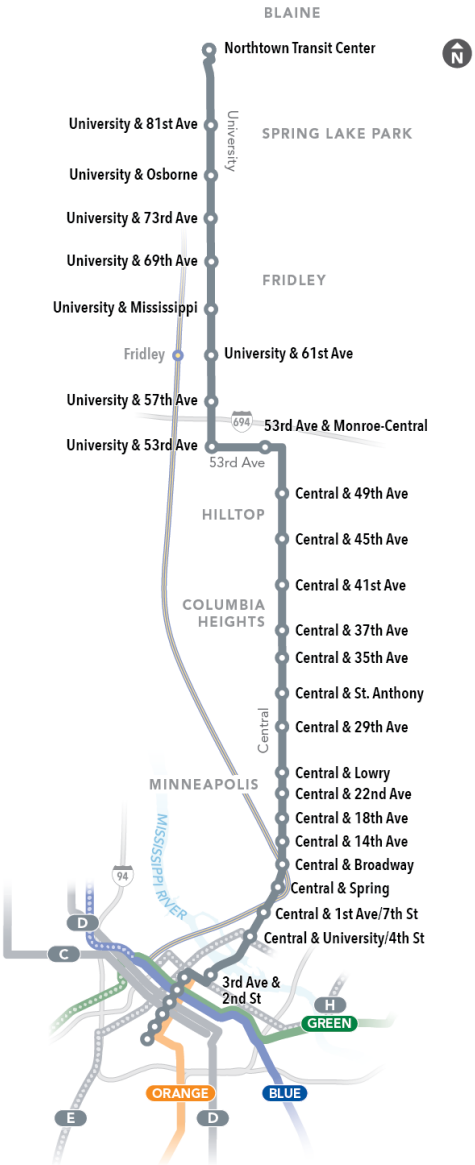
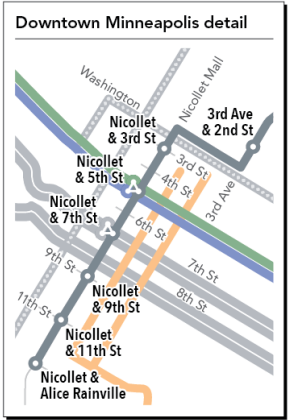
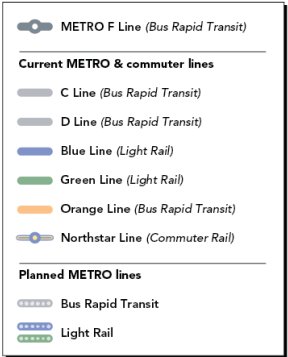
- 2023-132 SW
  - That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute Work Order #12 (22I003L) issued under 22I003, the Master Partnership Contract (“MPC”), with the Minnesota Department of Transportation (“MnDOT”). Under the Work Order, the Council will receive approximately \$2,400,000 from MnDOT for preliminary design services for Trunk Highway 65 to be completed in coordination with the METRO F Line project.
- 2023-125 SW
  - Authorize the Regional Administrator to award and execute contract 22P400 with Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. for engineering and construction administration services for the METRO F Line project and associated roadway improvements in the amount not to exceed \$17,382,828.

# METRO F Line arterial bus rapid transit project

- Faster, frequent, all-day service
- 13-mile corridor from downtown Minneapolis to Northtown Transit Center
- Substantial upgrade to Route 10
- Predominantly operates on MnDOT roadways
  - Trunk Highway 47 (University Avenue)
  - Trunk Highway 65 (Central Avenue)
- Planned Schedule
  - Planning: 2022-2023
  - Engineering: 2023-2024
  - Construction: 2025-2026
  - Planned Opening: Late 2026



March 2023



00-05-407259-23



# F Line / MnDOT Coordination Partnership

- Significant coordination through planning with MnDOT-led study of Trunk Highway 47 and 65
- Need for safety and pavement improvements through future MnDOT roadway projects
- Recommendations for Trunk Highway 65
  - Lane reconfiguration
  - Support F Line speed and reliability goals
  - Pedestrian and bicycle improvements



Preliminary concept

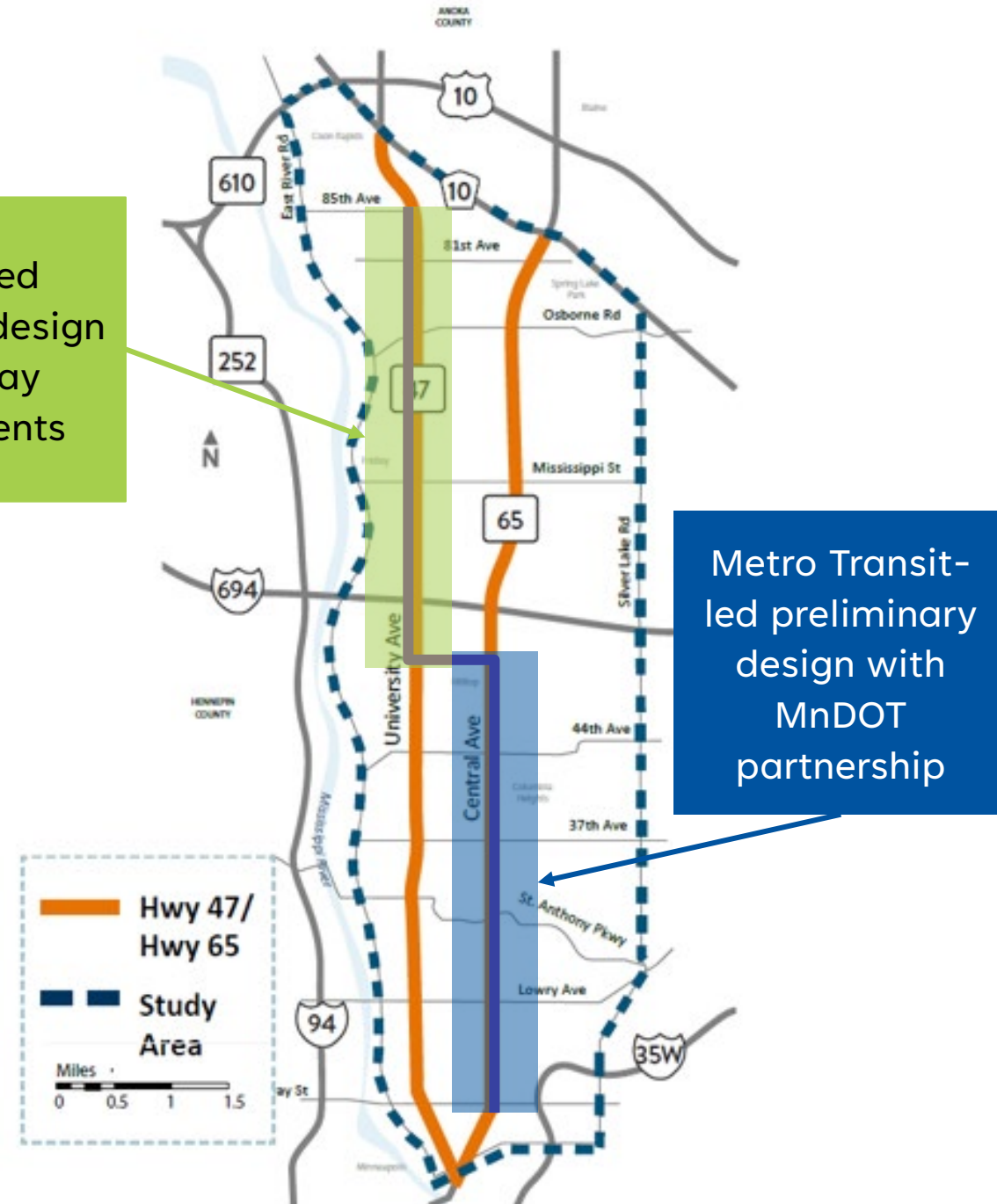
TH 65 configuration between University Avenue and 37<sup>th</sup> Avenue identified in MnDOT study

# F Line / MnDOT Coordination Partnership

- Incorporation of MnDOT-funded preliminary design for Trunk Highway 65 roadway improvements into contract 22P400
  - MnDOT to provide funding through contract 22I003L
- Benefits
  - Streamlines resolution of design challenges
  - Facilitates concurrent design of complementary roadway and transit improvements
- Construction timing to be determined as MnDOT project funding is identified

MnDOT-led preliminary design of roadway improvements

Metro Transit-led preliminary design with MnDOT partnership





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