

Committee Report

Transportation Committee



Committee Meeting Date: November 25, 2024

For the Metropolitan Council: December 11, 2024

Business Item: 2024-329

METRO Green Line Extension Hennepin County and Hennepin County Regional Railroad Authority Capital Grant Agreement, Contract 18I094 – Amendment No. 12

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute an amendment to contract 18I094 with Hennepin County and Hennepin County Regional Railroad Authority to add \$90,294,640 bringing the total grant amount to \$1,168,375,344 to fund METRO Green Line Extension Project activities.

Summary of Transportation Committee Discussion/Questions

Metro Transit Green Line Extension Project Director Jim Alexander presented this item.

Motion by Vento, seconded by Morales. Motion carried.



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District(s), Member(s):	District 3 (Carter), District 6 (Lilligren), District 7 (Osman), District 8 (Cameron)
Policy/Legal Reference:	FM 15-1 Income/Grants Policy
Staff Prepared/Presented:	Lesley Kandaras, General Manager, 612-349-7513 Nick Thompson, Deputy General Manager, 612-349-7507 Jim Alexander, Project Director, 612-373-3880 Nic Dial, Deputy Project Director, 612-373-2974
Division/Department:	Metro Transit/METRO Green Line Extension

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute an amendment to contract 18I094 with Hennepin County and Hennepin County Regional Railroad Authority to add \$90,294,640 bringing the total grant amount to \$1,168,375,344 to fund METRO Green Line Extension Project activities.

Background

In December 2018, the Council executed a Capital Grant Agreement (CGA) with Hennepin County and Hennepin County Regional Railroad Authority (HCRRA) to provide \$434,901,943 in funding through August 2019 (BI 2018-259).

The Capital Grant Agreement has been amended as follows:

- Amendment No. 1 extended the term through September 2019.
- Amendment No. 2 increased the amount to \$553,456,897 and extended the term through March 2020 (BI 2019-179).
- Amendment No. 3 increased the amount to \$602,795,681 and extended the term through June 2020 (BI 2020-92).
- Amendment No. 4 increased the amount to \$677,765,449 and extended the term through August 2020 (BI 2020-176).
- Amendment No. 5 extended the term through November 2020.
- Amendment No. 6 extended the term through January 2022.
- Amendment No. 7 increased the amount to \$878,080,704 and extended the term through June 2022 (BI 2021-192).
- Amendment No. 8 extended the term through December 31, 2022.
- Amendment No. 9 increased the amount to \$978,080,704 and extended the term through June 2023 (BI 2022-338).

- Amendment No. 10 extended the term through January 2024.
- Amendment No. 11 increased the amount to \$1,078,080,704 and extended the term through January 2025 (BI 2024-14).

Amendment No. 12 adds \$90,294,640 for a total grant amount of \$1,168,375,344 and extends the term through 2028 to account for project close out activities following revenue service scheduled in 2027. The additional local funding from Hennepin County is contingent upon a Capital Budget Amendment action for the METRO Green Line Extension.

Rationale

Metropolitan Council Resolution 2023-18 states that “any actions to formalize the shared funding commitment will be presented to and subject to the approval of the Council’s governing body.” Council Policy requires that income and grant agreements exceeding \$500,000 be approved by the Council.

Thrive Lens Analysis

Successful completion of the METRO Green Line Extension will advance the following Thrive MSP 2040 outcomes:

Stewardship: Transit investment provides an opportunity to reinvest and grow the capacity of our communities, with more inclusive development and intentional investment. It encourages businesses to invest in communities, which means access to resources, community amenities, jobs, and other community assets.

Equity: Connections to other METRO lines and countless local bus routes will bring people to jobs, jobs to communities, and returns to communities across the region.

Livability: The METRO Green Line Extension will add 14.5 miles to the existing Line, which connects downtown Minneapolis, downtown Saint Paul, and places in-between. This segment connects Eden Prairie, Minnetonka, Hopkins, and St. Louis Park to both downtown Minneapolis and Saint Paul, and major destinations at the University of Minnesota and the State Capitol.

Prosperity: The METRO Green Line Extension reflects strategic investment in regional infrastructure that will promote economic competitiveness and create prosperity for the region. Despite being under construction, the METRO Green Line Extension has already seen \$3.1 billion of investment within a half-mile of the line. Another \$738 million in investment is planned.

Sustainability: As many as 700,000 more people will be living, working, and moving around the Twin Cities region by 2040. As a result, a robust transportation system is needed to provide the region with choices and more mobility.

Funding

Amendment No. 12 will provide an additional \$90,294,640 (\$1,168,375,344) to the Capital Grant Agreement for Project activities and the Capital Budget will be amended to reflect this grant agreement in January 2025.

Small Business Inclusion

The aggregate DBE achievement on the METRO Green Line Extension Project is 21.9%, as of September 30, 2024, and exceeding the aggregate DBE contract goal of 16% as established by the Office of Equity and Equal Opportunity (OEEEO). OEEEO will continue to monitor progress and work with the awarded contractors accordingly with DBE compliance requirements.

