

Committee Report

Transportation Committee



Committee meeting date: April 14, 2025

For the Metropolitan Council: April 23, 2025

Business Item: 2025-110

Federal Transit Administration Authorizing Resolution 2025-11

Proposed action

That the Metropolitan Council adopt FTA Authorizing Resolution, Resolution 2025-11, which demonstrates the authority of the Council to file for federal grants and delegates authority to act on behalf of the Council.

Summary of Transportation Committee discussion/questions

Metro Transit Finance Director Ed Petrie presented this item. Council Members asked for details on the administration of the item.

It was moved by Chamblis, seconded by Osman. Motion carried.



Business Item

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District(s), member(s):	All
Policy/legal reference:	FTA Circular 9030.1E; Minn. Stat. § 473.129, subd. 4. (2024); Minn. Stat. § 473.223 (2024)
Staff prepared/presented:	Lesley Kandaras, General Manager Metro Transit Edwin Petrie, Director of Metro Transit Finance Julie Matthews, Senior Manager Budget and Grants
Division/department:	Metro Transit / Finance

Proposed action

That the Metropolitan Council adopt FTA Authorizing Resolution, Resolution 2025-11, which demonstrates the authority of the Council to file for federal grants and delegates authority to act on behalf of the Council.

Background

One of the prerequisites to be a recipient of Federal Transit Administration (FTA) funding is demonstrating legal capacity to carry out the project(s) included in federal assistance awards. This is generally based on the review of the recipient organization's documentation and certification that it has the legal capacity to carry out FTA-funded programs and projects. Specifically, the recipient must be eligible and authorized under state or local law to request, receive, and spend FTA funds to administer FTA-assisted projects.

On May 24, 2006, the Council passed Resolution 2006-13, which authorized the Regional Administrator to execute and file applications for federal assistance on behalf of the Metropolitan Council with the Federal Transit Administration for Federal Assistance authorized by 49.U.S.C. chapter 53, Title 23, United States Code, or other Federal statutes authorizing a project administered by the Federal Transit Administration.

The FTA recently announced an enhancement in TrAMS, FTA's grants management system of record, specific to the organization and required labeling of the Authorizing Resolution. FTA has stated that beginning March 5, 2025, TrAMS will prevent any recipients that have not properly identified the Authorizing Resolution in their Recipient Document profile from transmitting or submitting new applications. While the Council passed a similar resolution in 2006, this Resolution 2025-11 will ensure that the Metropolitan Council currently meets the FTA's requirements.

Rationale

The FTA will prevent any recipients who have not properly identified and uploaded documents from transmitting or submitting new applications. Updating the Authorizing Resolution is necessary to ensure the Council can continue to submit applications.

Thrive lens analysis

The Council adopted Imagine 2050 on February 12, 2025, which builds on policy direction in Thrive MSP 2040. Under the Thrive lens this resolution demonstrates commitment towards asset preservation, obtaining statutorily allowed funding, and supports the Thrive outcomes of stewardship by assessing the future needs, responsible planning and management of resources for Metro Transit and Metropolitan Transportation Services.

Funding

This Authorizing Resolution 2025-11 will allow the Metropolitan Council to apply for future FTA grant and awards for investment in transit.

Small business inclusion

There are no direct impacts to small business inclusion associated with the proposed action.





METROPOLITAN COUNCIL RESOLUTION NO. 2025-11

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE FILING OF APPLICATIONS WITH THE FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION, AN OPERATING ADMINISTRATION OF THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, FOR FEDERAL TRANSPORTATION ASSISTANCE AUTHORIZED BY 49 U.S.C. CHAPTER 53; TITLE 23, UNITED STATES CODE, OR OTHER FEDERAL STATUTES ADMINISTERED BY THE FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION.

- WHEREAS,** the Federal Transit Administrator has been delegated authority to award federal financial assistance for a transportation project; and
- WHEREAS,** the grant or cooperative agreement for federal financial assistance will impose certain obligations upon the applicant, and may require the applicant to provide the local share of the project cost; and
- WHEREAS,** the applicant has or will provide all annual certifications and assurances to the Federal Transit Administration required for the project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

1. THAT the Regional Administrator or their designee is authorized to execute and file an application for federal assistance on behalf of the Metropolitan Council with the Federal Transit Administration for federal assistance authorized by 49 U.S.C. Chapter 53, title 23, United States Code, or other federal statutes authorizing a project administered by the Federal Transit Administration. The Metropolitan Council is the Designated Recipient as defined by 49 U.S.C. 5307(a)(2) for Urbanized Area Formula Program assistance;
2. THAT the Regional Administrator or their designee and the General Counsel or their designee are authorized to execute and file with its applications the annual certifications and assurances and other documents the Federal Transportation Administration requires before awarding a federal assistance grant or cooperative agreement.
3. THAT the Regional Administrator or their designee is authorized to execute grant and cooperative agreements with the Federal Transit Administration on behalf of the Metropolitan Council.

Adopted this 23rd day of April 2025.

Charles A. Zelle, Chair

Ginger Fride, Recording Secretary