

T Transportation Committee

Meeting date: February 13, 2012

For the Council Meeting of February 22, 2012

ADVISORY INFORMATION

Date:	January 26, 2012
Subject:	Authorization to Enter Into a Joint Powers Agreement with the State of Minnesota for Transit Link Service
District(s), Member(s):	All
Policy/Legal Reference:	Mn State Statute 471.59, subd. 10
Staff Prepared/Presented:	Arlene McCarthy, Director of MTS (651)602-1754 Gerri Sutton, Ass't Director Contract Transit Services (651)602-1672
Division/Department:	Metropolitan Transportation Services (MTS)

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize its Regional Administrator to execute a joint powers agreement and subsequent amendments to it with the State of Minnesota through its Commissioner of Transportation to allow the Council to transport Transit Link customers to destinations in Minnesota outside the metropolitan area as defined by Minn. Stat. § 473.121.

Background

Minn. Stat. § 473.123 subd. 1 provides that the Council's jurisdiction is the "metropolitan area". That term is defined in Minn. Stat. § 473.121 subd. 2, to include only Anoka, Carver, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey, Scott and Washington counties.

During 2010, the Metropolitan Council implemented the Transit Link dial-a-ride program. The Transit Link service area is the metropolitan area as defined in Minn. Stat. § 473.121. Prior to the implementation of Transit Link, customers were sometimes able to access services in communities outside of the metropolitan area using locally controlled community based dial-a-ride programs. Those programs no longer exist leaving some residents of the metropolitan area with limited ability to meet medical, business and other essential life needs in nearby communities outside of the metropolitan area.

Rationale

There are communities adjacent to, but outside of, the seven county metro area with senior centers, business districts and medical facilities used by residents of the metropolitan area. Currently, the customer must transfer from a Transit Link vehicle to another provider at the county boarder and travel a short distance to reach their destination. For those people living near the outer boundary of the metropolitan area, it is often in the best interest of the customer and the Council to meet the customer's needs by crossing the Council's statutory boundary. This action provides the necessary partnership with the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) to deliver Transit Link service to and from areas outside of the metropolitan area.

Destinations served outside of the seven county metro area will be limited to points within a two mile buffer and as recommended by the Coordination Advisory Committee that advises on Transit Link operational and policy matters. Transit Link service is available only to residents of the seven county metro area.

Funding

There is no impact to funding.

Known Support / Opposition

There is no known opposition to this item.

Metropolitan Council
390 North Robert Street, St. Paul, MN 55101-1634
Phone (651)602-1000 TDD (651)291-0904 FAX (651)602-1550 Metro Info (651)602-1888

RESOLUTION 2012-2

**Resolution Authorizing the Metropolitan Council to enter into
A Joint Powers Agreement with
the State of Minnesota**

That the Metropolitan Council authorize its Regional Administrator to execute a joint powers agreement and subsequent amendments to it with the State of Minnesota through its Commissioner of Transportation to allow the Council to operate Transit Link dial-a-ride service in Minnesota outside the Metropolitan Area as defined by Minn. Stat. § 473.121.

Adopted this 22nd day of February, 2012.

Susan Haigh, Chair

Sue Harder, Council Recording Secretary

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution is a true and correct copy of the resolution presented to and adopted by the Metropolitan Council at a duly authorized meeting held on the 22nd day of February, 2012, as shown by the minutes of the meeting in my possession.

Sue Harder, Council Recording Secretary