

Transportation Committee

Consent

Meeting date: April 22, 2013

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of May 1, 2013

Subject: Red Line Bus Rapid Transit – Joint Powers Agreements**District(s), Member(s):** District 5 – Steve Elkins
District 15 – Steven Chavez
District 16 – Wendy Wulff**Policy/Legal Reference:** Minnesota State Statutes 473.405 and 471.59**Staff Prepared/Presented:** Brian Lamb, General Manager, 612-349-7510
Marilyn Porter, Director, E & F, 612-349-7689
Pat Jones, Asst. Director, E & F, 612-349-7606
Claudius Toussaint, Project Manager, 612-349-7770**Division/Department:** Metro Transit Engineering & Facilities

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council (Council) authorize the Regional Administrator to execute the following Joint Powers Agreements (JPA) related to the operations of the Red Line Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) project:

- “Joint Powers Agreement with Dakota County and The City of Apple Valley and the Minnesota Valley Transit Authority and The Metropolitan Council for Development of Fiber Optic Network”,
- “Joint Powers Agreement between the County of Dakota and The Metropolitan Council for Fiber Optic Network”,
- “Joint Powers Agreement between the County of Dakota and The Metropolitan Council for Operation and Maintenance of Transit Signal Priority Systems”.

Background

The METRO Red Line will be the first BRT transitway in the Twin Cities region with station-to-station service.

Prior Council actions have authorized the construction of stations and technology driven equipment at the stations including: real-time transit information signs, ticket vending machines, emergency phones, public address systems, and security systems. This equipment will link to partner agency operation centers through a network of existing and new fiber optic infrastructure owned by the Council, Dakota County and The City of Apple Valley and the Minnesota Valley Transit Authority.

Additionally, to enhance transit vehicle operations, the Council installed a Transit Signal Priority System on traffic signals owned by Dakota County on Cedar Avenue.

The purpose of the three agreements is to define the rights and obligations of all parties with respect to the installation, ownership, operation, maintenance, and shared use of the fiber optic networks and the Transit Signal Priority System.

Rationale

Authorization to negotiate and execute Joint Powers Agreements require Council approval.

Funding

Each party to these agreements is responsible for their own costs. Funding for the Red Line operations is included in the Council's proposed 2013 Operating Budget.

Known Support / Opposition

Dakota County, City of Apple Valley, and Minnesota Valley Transit Authority approve of these agreements. There is no known opposition to this action.