

Transportation Committee

Meeting date: April 8, 2013

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of April 10, 2013

Subject: Red Line Bus Rapid Transit Grant Agreement Amendments with Dakota County Regional Rail Authority

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
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Division/Department: Metro Transit Engineering & Facilities

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council (Council) authorize the Regional Administrator to execute two amendments to existing funding agreements with the Dakota County Regional Rail Authority (DCRRA) for the Red Line Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) project in the amounts of \$120,000 and \$617,000.

Background

Per business item 2012-212, the Metropolitan Council (Council) authorized the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute grant agreements with the Dakota County Regional Rail Authority (DCRRA) for funds granted to the Council by the DCRRA to procure goods and services needed for Red Line Bus Rapid Transit (BRT). Subsequently two agreements were executed – one agreement in the amount of \$270,000 for transit information signs and the other in the amount of \$1,239,485 for ticket vending machines, marketing and branding, and transit signal priority. Council staff would like to amend these two agreements to include additional funds from DCRRA for project related activities including the installation of Emergency Phones, Public Address Systems, wayfinding signs and network connections at the Cedar Grove Transit Station and the Apple Valley Transit Station and the Mall of America; construction administration for the walk-up stations; the installation of Automatic Vehicle Locates (AVL) on the station-to-station buses; and the procurement and installation of network equipment.

DCRRA is the lead agency for the development and implementation of Cedar Avenue Transitway Stage 1. Therefore, the transfer of funds to the Council first has to be approved by the DCRRA Board. The transfer of funding for the grant agreement amendments was approved by the DCRRA at their March 26, 2013 board meeting.

Rationale

Entering into a grant agreement with the DCRRA will define the scope, budget and authorized use of these Red Line BRT grant funds as well as how the funds will be made available to the Council.

Authorization to negotiate and execute a grant agreement in excess of \$250,000 requires Council approval.

Funding

These amendments will transfer \$737,000 of CTIB funds to the Council.

Known Support / Opposition

Dakota County Regional Railroad Authority and Minnesota Valley Transit Authority staff are in support of this action. There is no known opposition to this action.