

Transportation Committee

Meeting date: January 14, 2013

For the Council Meeting of January 23, 2013

ADVISORY INFORMATION

Date: January 4, 2013

Subject: Authorization to Execute 2013 Agreements with the Counties Transit Improvement Board (CTIB)

District(s), Member(s): All

Policy/Legal Reference: Metropolitan Council Policy 3-2-2 and 2008 MN Session Laws, Chapter 152, Article 4, Sec. 2, Subd. 5

Staff Prepared/Presented: Brian Lamb, General Manager Metro Transit 612-349-7510
Arlene McCarthy, MTS Director 651-602-1754
Edwin D. Petrie, Director of Finance 612-349-7624
Amy Vennewitz, MTS Deputy Director 651-602-1058

Division/Department: Metro Transit and Metropolitan Transportation Services

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute agreements with the Counties Transit Improvement Board (CTIB) to receive funds in 2013 for the following projects:

Operating

- Hiawatha LRT (METRO Blue Line)- \$11,473,089
- Northstar Commuter Rail - \$7,871,876
- I-35W South BRT Express Service- \$148,936
- Cedar Ave. BRT Express Service - \$367,421
- Cedar Ave. BRT Station to Station Service (METRO Red Line) - \$1,393,947

Capital

- I-35W South BRT - \$840,000

Background

On August 13, 2012, the Council approved Business Item 2012-256 authorizing the Regional Administrator to submit grant applications to CTIB for 2013 funding. On October 10, 2012, the Council approved Business Item 2012-304 stating these grant applications are consistent with the adopted 2030 Transportation Policy Plan. This proposed action will allow agreements to be executed with CTIB to accept the grant awards.

The Council also submitted a \$2.4 million CTIB capital application for the Bottineau Transitway project. However, because the Council has not yet developed the cost and schedule detail for the Bottineau project, the Hennepin County Regional Railroad Authority (HCRRA) subsequently submitted a \$2.4 million Bottineau grant application to CTIB with a \$1.6 million county local match. In approving the grant, CTIB noted the intent for the HCRRA to subgrant the total \$4 million to the Council for preliminary engineering and environmental work.

For Southwest LRT, the CTIB funding from prior year grant awards is anticipated to be sufficient to cover CTIB's portion of the forecasted expenses for 2013 so a new grant award for 2013 is not needed. At the request of the Council, CTIB has committed to fund up to 60% of the total cost of the preliminary engineering phase going forward, for an amount not to exceed \$55.8 million.

Rationale

CTIB operating grant funds will provide 75% of the net cost of transitway operations for January through June and 50% for July through December, 2013. The I-35W South BRT capital grant will fund buses for expanded express service in the corridor.

Funding

The CTIB funding is included as part of the adopted 2013 operating and capital budgets. Therefore, no budget amendments are necessary.

Known Support / Opposition

No known opposition.