

Transportation Committee

Meeting date: January 28, 2013

For the Council Meeting of February 13, 2013

ADVISORY INFORMATION

Date: January 22, 2013

Subject: Authorization to execute agreements with Minnesota Valley Transit Authority and SouthWest Transit for Supplemental Operating Funding

District(s), Member(s): All

Policy/Legal Reference: 2013 Unified Operating Budget

Staff Prepared/Presented: Arlene McCarthy, Director, MTS (651) 602-1754
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Division/Department: Transportation / Metropolitan Transportation Services (MTS)

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute grant agreements in amounts not to exceed \$4,909,200 and \$604,200 with Minnesota Valley Transit Authority (MVTA) and SouthWest Transit (SWT), respectively, to provide supplemental transit operating funding during CY2013.

Background

During preparation of the CY2013 transit operating budget, Council staff calculated the amount of Regionally Allocated MVST (MVST above the base 21.5%) that would be needed by the Suburban Transit Providers (STPs) to preserve their existing service levels and increase their target fund balance levels in 2013. The calculation resulted in a recommended amount of \$4,909,200 for MVTA and \$604,200 for SWT. These amounts were included as part of the preparation of the 2013 Transportation Budget.

Rationale

The region's projected transit operating revenues currently allow for preservation of existing transit service levels and building target fund balances to the upper ranges (35% for STPs). This request is necessary for MVTA and SWT to preserve their existing service in CY2013 and to increase their target fund balance.

Funding

The funding for these grants will be Regionally Allocated MVST. Regionally Allocated MVST funds are MVST funds received by the Council above the base 21.5% due to the 2006 constitutional amendment. The necessary contract amounts are included in the Transportation Division's 2013 Operating Budget.

Known Support / Opposition

MVTA and SWT support this action. No known opposition.