

Transportation Committee

Meeting date: July 22, 2013

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of August 14, 2013

Subject: Designation of Metropolitan Council as FTA Section 5307 Recipient

District(s), Member(s): All

Policy/Legal Reference: Federal Transit Administration Section 5307

Staff Prepared/Presented: Arlene McCarthy, Director of MTS (651) 602-1754

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Division/Department:

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council approve Resolution 2013-11 concurring with the Governor's designation of the Metropolitan Council as the recipient of Federal Transit Administration Section 5307 Urbanized Area Formula Program funding for the Minneapolis--St. Paul, MN--WI urbanized area.

Background

The Federal government, through the Federal Transit Administration, provides financial assistance to develop new transit systems and improve, maintain, and operate existing systems. While the state is typically the designated recipient of FTA funds for urbanized areas with less than 200,000 population, a regional authority is usually designated by the Governor as the direct recipient of FTA funds for a metropolitan region with a population over 200,000.

Since the beginning of the FTA as the Urban Mass Transit Administration in the 1970s, the Metropolitan Transit Commission (MTC) or the Metropolitan Council, as the successor agency to MTC, has served as the recipient designated by the Governor for the seven-county Twin Cities metropolitan area. However, FTA has recently requested that the designated recipient letter for the Metropolitan Council be updated and reissued by the Governor.

Rationale

FTA regulations require that the Governor's letter must be accompanied by documentation of concurrence in the selection of the designated recipient by the providers of publicly owned public transportation service in the region. FTA also requires a certified resolution of concurrence from the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). Since the Council serves as both the major public transit provider in the region and the MPO, adoption of the attached resolution will fulfill both requirements.

Funding

Since the Council has developed the complex systems necessary to satisfy FTA requirements, and has been through all of the necessary FTA reviews and audits, maintaining this designation will ensure that federal funding continues to be made available to all transit providers in the region in a timely manner.

Known Support / Opposition

There is no known opposition to the Metropolitan Council serving as the designated recipient for these funds.

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RESOLUTION 2013-11

**Resolution of Metropolitan Council Agreement to serve as the Designated Recipient
for Federal Transit Administration Section 5307 (Urbanized Area Formula Program) Funding**

Whereas, FTA Circular 9030.1D states that for UZAs with 200,000 or more in population, FTA apportions funds to a UZA and the funds flow to the recipient designated by the Governor to apply for and receive Federal Transit Administration (FTA) funds, and

Whereas, FTA Circular 9030.1D further states that for UZAs with 200,000 or more in population, documentation of concurrence in the selection of the designated recipient by the providers of publicly owned public transportation service in the UZA, and an appropriately certified resolution of the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) concurring in the designation, must be attached to Governor's written notice to the FTA of the designated recipient, and

Whereas, the Minneapolis/St Paul UZA has a population of over 200,000 population, and the Metropolitan Council, or its predecessor transit operating agency, the Metropolitan Transit Commission, has served as the recipient designated by the Governor of Minnesota to apply for and receive FTA funds for over 40 years, and

Whereas, the Metropolitan Council has developed the complex systems necessary to satisfy FTA requirements, has been through all of the necessary FTA reviews and audits, and is willing to continue serving as the designated recipient, and

Whereas, maintaining this designation will ensure that federal funding continues to be made available to all transit providers in the region in a timely manner, and

Whereas, the Metropolitan Council was designated as the Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Minneapolis/St Paul region in 1973 by Governor Wendell Anderson.

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that the Metropolitan Council, as the major provider of publicly owned public transportation service in the Minneapolis/St Paul UZA, concurs with the Governor's selection of the Metropolitan Council as the designated recipient of Section 5307 Urbanized Area Formula Program grants to provide public transportation service in the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area, and

Be it further resolved, that the Metropolitan Council, as the Metropolitan Planning Organization for the Minneapolis/St Paul region, concurs with this designation.

Adopted this 14th day of August, 2013.

Susan Haigh, Chair

Emily Getty, 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 14th day of August, 2013, as shown by the minutes of the meeting in my possession.

Emily Getty, Council Recording Secretary