

Transportation Committee

Meeting date: June 10, 2013

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of June 26, 2013

Subject: Transit Cooperation Agreement with City of Minnetonka

District(s), Member(s): District 3 – Jennifer Munt

Policy/Legal Reference: 2000 Minn. Laws, Ch. 493, Sec. 21; Minn. Statute 473.388

Staff Prepared/Presented: Brian Lamb, General Manager, 612-349-7510
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Division/Department: Metro Transit/ Service Development

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorizes the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute a new Transit Cooperation Agreement with the City of Minnetonka

Background

In 2000, the Minnesota Legislature granted Minnetonka the authority to participate in the transit replacement service program. In June 2002, the City formally exercised this option and then approved a Transit Cooperation Agreement with the Metropolitan Council to plan and operate transit service in the City rather than operate an independent transit system. In 2010, the City conducted a Transit Study which recommended an update to the Transit Cooperation Agreement.

The new agreement is similar to the existing agreement with some small changes. Under the new agreement, the Council agrees to maintain service levels in Minnetonka and to seek approval for major service changes in Minnetonka, except in the case of region-wide service reductions or when service does not meet regional performance standards. City and Council staff will also be required to meet on a regular basis to discuss any issues with operations or capital facility maintenance.

Rationale

The Transit Cooperation Agreement allows Minnetonka to achieve their goals for transit while remaining part of an integrated regional transit network.

Funding

The Metropolitan Council will continue to retain all transit operations and capital funding that would flow to the City if they were a separate transit provider. No increase or decrease in funding or operating costs is anticipated as a result of this agreement.

Known Support / Opposition

The Minnetonka City Council is expected to approve the new agreement on June 24, 2013. There is no known opposition to the existing or new agreement.