

Transportation Committee

Meeting date: August 25, 2014

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of September 10, 2014

Subject: Southwest Light Rail (Green Line Extension) – Authorize negotiation and execution of a Cooperation Agreement with the City of Hopkins, Minnesota

District(s), Member(s): All

Policy/Legal Reference: MN Statutes, Section 473.399

Staff Prepared/Presented: Brian J. Lamb, General Manager, 612-349-7510
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Division/Department: Metro Transit / Southwest LRT Project Office (SPO)

Proposed Action

The Metropolitan Council (Council) authorizes the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute a Cooperation Agreement with the City of Hopkins, Minnesota (City) on matters pertaining to the Southwest Light Rail Transit (SWLRT) Operations and Maintenance Facility (OMF) and associated activities near the three anticipated Light Rail Transit (LRT) stations also located in the City. The Council also cancels prior Business Item No. 2014-91 as unnecessary.

Background

On May 14, 2014, the Council approved Business Item No. 2014-091 authorizing the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute a Term Sheet with the City. Through negotiations, the Term Sheet was reformatted to a Cooperation Agreement and was never executed. This proposed action authorizes the Regional Administrator to proceed with negotiations and execute the modified agreement.

Rationale

The Council has engaged in collaborative discussions with the City throughout the SWLRT Project's beginning planning stages. Entering into a Cooperation Agreement that identifies items for continued coordination during Project Development, Engineering, and Construction phases memorializes the Council's and City's commitment to work cooperatively to achieve successful delivery of the Southwest LRT Project in Hopkins.

Funding

This Cooperation Agreement does not require funding. The parties will enter into subsequent agreements as the proposed SWLRT Project advances.

Known Support / Opposition

No known opposition.