

Transportation Committee

Meeting date: December 8, 2014

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of December 10, 2014

Subject: Southwest Light Rail (Green Line Extension) - Master Funding Agreements (MFAs)

District(s), Member(s): All

Policy/Legal Reference: MN Statutes, Section 473.399

Staff Prepared/Presented: Brian J. Lamb, General Manager, 612-349-7510
Mark W. Fuhrmann, Deputy General Manager, 651-602-1942
Chris Beckwith, Deputy Program Director, 651-602-1433
Craig Lamothe, SWLRT Project Director, 612-373-3830
Nani Jacobson, SWLRT Asst. Dir. Envir & Agreements, 612-373-3808

Division/Department: Metro Transit / Green Line Extension Project Office

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council (Council) authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute Master Funding Agreements (MFAs) with the following local agencies for the proposed Southwest Light Rail Transit Project (SWLRT Project):

- Hennepin County Regional Railroad Authority
- Hennepin County
- Cities of Eden Prairie, Hopkins, Minneapolis, Minnetonka, and St. Louis Park
- Three Rivers Park District
- Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board
- Minnehaha Creek Watershed District

Background

The MFA serves as the framework for the possible transfer of funds between the Council and local agencies for reimbursement of professional services and construction related to the SWLRT Project. The MFA identifies required federal, state, and local clauses, provisions and accounting procedures that govern subsequent Subordinate Funding Agreements (SFAs). These future SFAs are the work order agreements that specifically define scopes and schedules, funding authorizations, and activity periods governing the transfer of funds between the Council and local agencies. The Council anticipates executing several SFAs with local agencies for design and construction related activities associated with the SWLRT Project.

The MFA is separated into three sections: Part One provides a method to transfer Council funds to local agencies; Part Two provides a method to transfer local agency funds to the Council for features related to the Project, but currently not part of the Project's scope; and Part Three establishes general provisions that apply to the MFA and each SFA executed by local agencies.

Rationale

The MFA establishes the financial framework for funding transfers and the ability to execute SFAs between the Council and local agencies. The MFA also represents commitment by local agencies to comply with federal, state and local regulations, provisions, and accounting procedures.

Funding

Master Funding Agreements do not require funding. Subsequent SFAs will be negotiated and executed with specific funding amounts.

Known Support / Opposition

The MFAs are supported by local agencies. No known opposition.