

Transportation Committee

Meeting date: December 8, 2014

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of December 10, 2014

Subject: Authorization to Execute an Operating Grant Agreement with the City of Carver

District(s), Member(s): 4 – Gary Van Eyll

Policy/Legal Reference: TAB Funding Action and Business Item No. 2014-249

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

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Division/Department: Transportation / Metropolitan Transportation Services

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute an agreement with the City of Carver for \$826,200 to operate service between Carver and downtown Minneapolis and the University of Minnesota.

Background

This authorization will allow the City of Carver to provide demonstration express bus service between its new transit station and downtown Minneapolis and the University of Minnesota. The service is anticipated to operate for three years with the flexibility to operate beyond three years if funding in the agreement remains. SouthWest Transit will operate the service under a contract with the City of Carver and is working with the city to develop initial service plans. Adjustments in the number and types of trips will be made over time to reflect actual market demand.

Rationale

Allow the City of Carver to provide at least three years of bus service between Carver and downtown Minneapolis and the University of Minnesota.

Funding

The project will be funded with \$826,200 of MVST and a local match of \$206,550 to be supplied by the City of Carver. The funding was authorized by Business Item 2014-249 recommended by the Transportation Committee on October 13, 2014 and approved by the Council on October 22, 2014. That action authorized a budget neutral funding swap to provide the City of Carver with \$826,200 in non-federal transit operating funds in lieu of federal CMAQ funds with the federal funds going to 2015 Green Line operations. TAB also supported the funding swap. At its December meeting, CTIB is anticipated to approve the swap in funding sources for purposes of its 2015 METRO Green Line operating grant with the Council.

Known Support / Opposition

The City of Carver supports this business item and requested action.