

Transportation Committee

Meeting date: May 12, 2014

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of May 28, 2014

Subject: Agreements for the Central Corridor LRT Project (Green Line) through the University of Minnesota, City of Minneapolis/ Hennepin County, and City of Saint Paul/ Ramsey County

District(s), Member(s): All

Policy/Legal Reference: MN Statutes 473.129 and 473.405

Staff Prepared/Presented: Mark Fuhrmann, Program Director, 651-602-1942, Chris Beckwith, Project Director, 651-602-1433, Kathryn O'Brien, Assistant Director – Environmental and Agreements, 651-602-1927, Alicia Vap, Planning and Agreements Manager

Division/Department: Metro Transit

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorizes the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute the following Operations and Maintenance agreements for the Green Line LRT:

- 1) Operating and Maintenance Addendum to the Agreement for the Central Corridor Light Rail Transit Project (CCLRT) between the Council, the Regents of the University of Minnesota, the City of Minneapolis, and Hennepin County;
- 2) The Operating and Maintenance Agreement for the Washington Avenue Bridge between the Council and Hennepin County;
- 3) Operating and Maintenance Agreement for the CCLRT between the Council, the City of Minneapolis, and Hennepin County; and
- 4) Operating and Maintenance Agreement for the CCLRT between the Council, the City of Saint Paul, and Ramsey County.

Background

The Green Line LRT will begin carrying passengers on June 14, 2014. Memorializing commitments of local jurisdictions, and the Council to maintain and operate the system efficiently, effectively and safely is a key component of the system's long-term success. Central Corridor Project Office (CCPO) staff and Metro Transit staff have worked with the jurisdictions along the Green Line to establish these O&M agreements. The four agreements that are part of this proposed action represent the complete geographic area through which the Green Line will operate, and involve such entities as the University of Minnesota, the City of Minneapolis, Hennepin County, the City of Saint Paul, and Ramsey County.

Rationale

Development of a comprehensive set of operating and maintenance agreements for the Green Line to establish requirements for operating the LRT project through the respective jurisdictional areas is necessary to establish the roles and responsibilities of each jurisdiction and Metro Transit as Green Line revenue service commences.

Funding

Funding to implement the obligations of the various operations and maintenance agreement responsibilities of Metro Transit is included in Metro Transit's operating budget. City, County, and University of Minnesota maintenance responsibilities will be funded from their respective operating budgets.

Known Support / Opposition

There is no known opposition to execution of the Operations and Maintenance agreements. The U of M Agreement was approved by the Regents of the University of Minnesota May 9, 2014. The City/County Agreements will go before the Cities and Counties for approval in coming weeks.