

Transportation Committee

Meeting date: April 13, 2015

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of April 22, 2015

Subject:	Interagency Agreement with MnDOT to fund A Line Bus Rapid Transit construction
District(s), Member(s):	District 8 (Letofsky); District 10 (McCarthy); District 14 (Commers)
Policy/Legal Reference:	MN Statutes 473.405 and 471.59
Staff Prepared/Presented:	Brian Lamb, General Manager, 612-349-7510 Charles Carlson, Senior Manager, BRT/Small Starts, 612-349-7639 Katie Roth, Project Manager, BRT/Small Starts, 612-349-7772
Division/Department:	Metro Transit / BRT/Small Starts Project Office

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute Interagency Agreement 141075 with the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for funding construction of A Line bus rapid transit (BRT).

Background

In 2012-13, Metro Transit applied for and was awarded \$6,000,000 in MnDOT Chapter 152 Trunk Highway bonds for A Line BRT construction. MnDOT requires an interagency Cooperative Construction Agreement to allow for expenditure of these funds. The agreement must be executed prior to opening bids on the project and awarding the A Line construction contract.

The A Line project will construct 20 BRT stations along Snelling Avenue, Ford Parkway, and 46th Street in Roseville, Falcon Heights, St. Paul, and Minneapolis. Chapter 152 bonds will be used to fund construction of 13 stations along Trunk Highway 51 (Snelling Avenue), including purchase of shelters and pylons. A portion of the bond award will be retained by MnDOT as Council payment for construction of four A Line stations within MnDOT's concurrent Snelling Avenue construction project.

The allocation of the \$6,000,000 in Chapter 152 funds will be determined contingent on bids and final pricing for A Line construction, shelters and pylons, and MnDOT Snelling Avenue construction.

Rationale

An interagency agreement with MnDOT will ensure Chapter 152 funds will be made available for the timely construction of the A Line project. Council Policy requires interagency agreements valued at greater than \$1,000,000 be approved by the Council.

Funding

MnDOT Chapter 152 Trunk Highway bond funding of \$6,000,000 has been awarded for the construction of Project No. 61217, A Line BRT. Approval to expend these funds was included in the 2014 3rd Quarter Budget Amendment. A combination of federal (FTA, CMAQ), local (RTC), and state (Chapter 152, GO bonds, and appropriation) sources will be used to fund the A Line project.

Known Support / Opposition

MnDOT supports the construction of the A Line BRT project. There is no known opposition.