

Transportation Committee

Meeting date: February 8, 2016

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of February 24, 2016

Subject: Authorization to Execute an Operating Grant Agreement with Minnesota Valley Transit Authority

District(s), Member(s): 4 – Deb Barber, 15 – Steven Chavez, 16 – Wendy Wulff

Policy/Legal Reference: 2016 Unified Operating Budget, 2016 Unified Capital Program

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

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Division/Department:

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute an agreement with the Minnesota Valley Transit Authority (MVTA) for \$1,600,533 to operate service between the Marshall Road Transit Station in Shakopee to downtown Minneapolis and the University of Minnesota.

Background

This authorization will allow MVTA to operate three years of demonstration express bus service to downtown Minneapolis and the University of Minnesota. The current plan is to provide the demonstration for three years with the flexibility to utilize the funding for more than three years.

Rationale

Allow MVTA to provide at least three years of service between the Marshall Road Transit Station and downtown Minneapolis and the University of Minnesota

Funding

The project will be funded with \$1,280,426 of federal Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) funds and a local match of \$320,107 to be supplied by MVTA. The funding was authorized by Business Item 2015-301 that was presented to the Transportation Committee on November 23, 2015 and the full Council on December 9, 2015.

Known Support / Opposition

Minnesota Valley Transit Association is aware of and supports this business item and requested action.