

Transportation Committee

Meeting date: August 28, 2017

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of September 13, 2017

Subject: Southwest Light Rail Transit (Green Line Extension) 2017 CTIB Capital Grant First Amendment

District(s), Member(s): All

Policy/Legal Reference: 16 U.S.C. Section 470 (f)

Staff Prepared/Presented: Brian Lamb, General Manager, 612-349-7510
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Jim Alexander, SWLRT Project Director, 612-373-3880

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

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council (Council) authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute the Southwest LRT (Green Line Extension) 2017 CTIB Capital Grant First Amendment to adjust downward the grant funding available for expenditures pursuant to pre-award authority or a Letter of No Prejudice to \$156,758,569.

Background

The Council and CTIB executed the 2017 CTIB Capital Grant for Southwest LRT on January 31, 2017 for a total of \$179,834,921 through March 31, 2018. Of this total, the grant expected \$163,298,306 would require CTIB approval under Council pre-award authority or Letters of No Prejudice (LONP) spending requests prior to the Full Funding Grant Agreement.

The proposed First Amendment reduces the total expenditures subject to pre-award or LONP to \$156,758,569 through March 2018. This slight reduction is due to less advanced utility relocation activity. The reduction does not impact the current project schedule.

With the CTIB wind down process, CTIB will cease making grant disbursements effective September 30, 2017 with Hennepin County assuming the grantor responsibilities and covering all funding match responsibilities previously residing with the Council. For the period October 2017 through March 31, 2018, total grant disbursements from Hennepin County will be \$61,364,408 with local match requirements by the Council of \$0.

Rational

The proposed First Amendment is to update and better align forecasted project expenditures under pre-award and LONP authority while retaining the total Grant Amount.

Thrive Lens Analysis

Construction of the Green Line Extension will increase the region's prosperity as it will provide access to 80,900 forecasted jobs and a new transportation option for 55,800 forecasted residents within ½ mile of the planned new stations in addition to the 145,300 forecasted jobs and 35,600 forecasted residents in downtown Minneapolis.

Funding

Local funding for the project engineering phase is fully committed through March 31, 2018.

Known Support / Opposition

CTIB and Hennepin County support the First Amendment to the 2017 CTIB Capital Grant for Southwest LRT.