

Transportation Committee

Meeting date: November 13, 2017

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of November 29, 2017

Subject: METRO Green Line Extension – Subordinate Funding Agreement (SFA) No. 09 with Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT)

District(s), Member(s): All

Policy/Legal Reference: MN Statutes, Section 473.399

Staff Prepared/Presented: Brian J. Lamb, General Manager, 612-349-7510
Mark W. Fuhrmann, Program Director for New Starts, 612-373-3810
Jim Alexander, SWLRT Project Director, 612-373-3880

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

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute a METRO Green Line Extension Subordinate Funding Agreement (SFA) No. 09 to the Master Funding Agreement (MFA) with the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) in the total amount not to exceed \$3,401,890 for calendar year 2018.

Background

The Metropolitan Council (Council) on February 22, 2012, authorized the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute a Cooperation Agreement with MnDOT that established roles and responsibilities in the development of light rail transit in the Southwest Corridor. The Council on March 28, 2012, authorized the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute a MFA with MnDOT that established the contractual framework between the parties for engineering, technical, and professional services. The MFA authorizes SFAs that provide a method to transfer of funds from the Council to MnDOT so that MnDOT can carry out its METRO Green Line Extension Project responsibilities.

Each SFA defines the amount of funds committed and the specific purpose of the expenditures. The 2018 SFA will reimburse MnDOT for costs incurred in the construction of the METRO Green Line Extension Project.

Rationale

Use of MnDOT staff is a cost-effective way to provide expertise in areas such as structural engineering, rights-of-way, environmental oversight, and construction inspection. In 2018, MnDOT will assist in design support, construction support, environmental oversight, utility relocation, freight rail coordination, right-of-way activities, and construction inspection and oversight.

Thrive Lens Analysis

The METRO Green Line Extension Project supports Thrive outcomes including livability, prosperity, and equity by providing new access to economic and personal opportunity through the project corridor.

Funding

Funds are available in the SWLRT budget from the Counties Transit Improvement Board, Hennepin County, and Hennepin County Regional Railroad Authority.

Known Support / Opposition

The Metropolitan Council and MnDOT have executed Cooperation and Master Funding Agreements; both agencies are committed to working together to advance the METRO Green Line Extension Project.