

Transportation Committee

Meeting date: November 27, 2017

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of November 29, 2017

Subject: Southwest Light Rail Transit (Green Line Extension) Construction Agreement with SouthWest Transit

District(s), Member(s): All

Policy/Legal Reference: Minn. Stat. 473.399

Staff Prepared/Presented: Brian Lamb, General Manager, 612-349-7510
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Division/Department: Metro Transit / Green Line Extension Project Office

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council (Council) authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute a Construction Agreement with SouthWest Transit (SWT) related to the construction of SouthWest Station for the Southwest Light Rail Transit (SWLRT) Project.

Background

In January 2015 the Council executed a Cohabitation Agreement with SWT setting the framework for future agreements related to the co-location of the SWLRT Project with the SWT's existing operations at SouthWest Station. The SouthWest Station, located in Eden Prairie, serves as a bus transit station and park-and-ride facility for SWT bus patrons traveling to and from metropolitan area locations. SouthWest Station contains an indoor passenger waiting facility, a passenger pick-up/drop-off area, SWT's general offices, bus facilities, and an approximately 925 stall parking structure.

The SWLRT Project scope includes construction of an LRT station and platform, a new 450 stall parking structure, redesigned passenger pick-up/drop-off, indoor passenger waiting facility, and bus facilities, including a bus platform, turnaround and layover, at SouthWest Station. Co-location at SouthWest Station requires the relocation of SWT administrative offices.

The SouthWest Transit Commission approved the proposed design scope on December 17, 2015 and approved the plans and assumptions related to the access, redevelopment, and sharing of the SouthWest Station site on June 23, 2016. The parties determined that an agreement is necessary to coordinate the construction activities at SouthWest Station to ensure that SWT's bus and passenger services continue to operate during construction. The agreement will address design and construction specifications, construction phasing, and the party's respective roles and responsibilities during construction, including maintenance. In the event the Council's contractor is delayed, the agreement will provide liquidated damages to SWT, as defined in this agreement.

Rationale

Entering into a Construction Agreement with SWT will memorialize the party's roles and responsibilities during construction to ensure ongoing safe bus operations and continuous on-schedule SWLRT construction activities. Coordination among the agencies is in the best interest of the public and SWT's participation is critical to the SWLRT Project.

Thrive Lens Analysis

SouthWest Station rail and bus co-location increases access for area residents and transit users to jobs by providing multi-modal connections, improving passenger facilities and adding 450 park-and-ride spaces.

Funding

Funding for this Construction Agreement is included in the project budget.

Known Support / Opposition

There is no known opposition to this action. SouthWest Transit Commission has approved the design plans for the shared facility.