

Transportation Committee

Meeting date: April 23, 2018

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of May 9, 2018

Subject:	Orange Line 2018 Funding Agreement with Dakota County Regional Rail Authority
District(s), Member(s):	District 5 (Elkins), District 7 (Cunningham), District 8 (Letofsky), District 15 (Chavez)
Policy/Legal Reference:	Policy 3-3c
Staff Prepared/Presented:	Brian Lamb, General Manager, 612-349-7510 Charles Carlson, Senior Manager, BRT/Small Starts, 612-349-7639 Christina Morrison, Project Manager, BRT/Small Starts, 612-349-7690
Division/Department:	Metro Transit BRT/Small Starts Project Office

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute an interagency agreement with Dakota County Regional Railroad Authority (DCRRA) to fund METRO Orange Line project activities.

Background

DCRRA is a partner with Metro Transit in the delivery of the METRO Orange Line project, and along with Hennepin County is a significant local funding partner.

For 2018, Metro Transit requested \$1,400,000 of DCRRA for planned 2018 expenditures on the Orange Line project. This funding will be used towards a \$10 million construction payment to the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT). On March 27, 2018, Dakota County authorized the requested funds: \$350,000 from the original DCRRA funding commitment and \$1,050,000 from the share of a Counties Transit Improvement Board (CTIB) commitment assumed by DCRRA, for a total of \$1,400,000.

Rationale

Funding provided through this agreement will exceed \$500,000, thus requiring Council authorization.

Thrive Lens Analysis

METRO Orange Line supports Thrive outcomes including livability, prosperity, and equity by providing new access to economic and personal opportunity through the I-35W South corridor. The proposed action advances the stewardship outcome by advancing Orange Line construction in close coordination with concurrent work by MnDOT and other agency partners.

Funding

The proposed action will bring in additional funds from DCRRA.

Known Support / Opposition

DCRRA authorized additional funds for this agreement on March 27, 2018. There is no known opposition.