

Transportation Committee

Meeting date: November 26, 2018

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of December 12, 2018

Subject: Southwest Light Rail Transit (Green Line Extension) Subordinate Funding Agreement No. 11 with Minnesota Department of Transportation Staffing

District(s), Member(s): All

Policy/Legal Reference: MN Statutes, Section 473.399

Staff Prepared/Presented: Brian J. Lamb, General Manager, 612-349-7510
Joan Hollick, Interim Director, New Starts Program, 612-373-3820
Jim Alexander, SWLRT Project Director, 651-373-3880

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

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council (Council) authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute Subordinate Funding Agreement (SFA) No. 11 to the Master Funding Agreement (MFA) with the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for 2019 SWLRT staff support in the total amount not to exceed \$2,729,569.

Background

On February 22, 2012, the Council authorized the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute a Cooperation Agreement with MnDOT that established roles and responsibilities in the development of the SWLRT. On March 28, 2012, the Council authorized the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute the MFA with MnDOT that established the contractual framework for engineering, technical, and professional services. The MFA authorizes SFAs that allows that Council to pay MnDOT for costs incurred in carrying out its project related responsibilities. Each SFA outlines the anticipated activities and estimates the amount of funds needed to conduct those activities. The 2019 SFA includes staff support for construction support, right-of-way acquisition, and other professional services and cost estimate of \$2,729,569.

Rationale

Use of MnDOT staff is a cost-effective way to provide expertise in areas such as construction inspection, right-of-way acquisition and environmental oversight. In 2019, MnDOT will assist in construction support, right-of-way activities, environmental oversight, and utility relocation.

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 55,000 forecasted residents within ½ mile

of the planned new stations in addition to the 145,300 forecasted jobs and 35,600 forecasted residents downtown Minneapolis.

Funding

Funds for this SFA are included in the project budget and are eligible project costs that will be funded 46% by the Federal Transit Administration and 54% by local funding partners.

Known Support / Opposition

No known opposition. The Council and MnDOT have executed Cooperation and Master Funding Agreements; both agencies are committed to working together to advance the SWLRT Project.