

Transportation Committee

Meeting date: August 12, 2019

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of August 28, 2019

Subject: Southwest Light Rail Transit (Green Line Extension) First Amendment to the Hennepin County and Hennepin County Regional Railroad Authority Capital Grant Agreement for the LNTP Period

District(s), Member(s): All

Policy/Legal Reference: 16 U.S.C. Section 470 (f); MN Stat. 297A.993

Staff Prepared/Presented: Wes Kooistra, General Manager, 651-349-1723
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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 the First Amendment to Hennepin County and Hennepin County Regional Rail Authority (HCRRA) Capital Grant Agreement for the Limited Notice to Proceed (LNTP) Period to add \$118.6 million for a total of \$553.5 million to fund for Southwest Light Rail Transit (SWLRT) LNTP Project activities and extend the grant through March 2020.

Background

In December 2018, the Council executed a Capital Grant Agreement (CGA) with Hennepin County and HCRRA to complete Engineering, award the Civil Construction Contract, issue a LNTP for civil construction work. The CGA provided \$434,901,943 through August 2019.

The First Amendment will provide additional funding for the following activities planned for September 2019- March 2020:

- Design support during construction;
- Continued construction activities performed by Civil Contractor;
- Construction activities performed by Systems Contractor
- Design and engineering activities performed by the rail control software (SCADA) contractor
- Appraisal and relocation services;
- Real property acquisition under Pre-Award authority;
- Project office expenses including force account, rent, office and technology;
- Third Party agreements; and
- Light Rail Vehicle design and production.

When the CGA was executed, it was anticipated that the Council would submit the Full Funding Grant Agreement application in early 2019 and receive the FFGA by August 2019. The current Project schedule anticipates the FFGA award in early 2020.

In June 2019, the Council submitted to the FTA a request for LONP #2 and anticipates receiving authorization in August 2019. Receipt of LONP #2 is required before the Council can award the Systems Contract.

Rationale

The Capital Grant Agreement expires on August 29, 2019 and needs to be amended to extend the term through March 2020 and add \$118.6 million, bringing the total grant amount to \$553.5 million.

Thrive Lens Analysis

- **Livability**
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.
- **Prosperity**
The Green Line Extension reflects strategic investment in regional infrastructure that will promote economic competitiveness and create prosperity for the region.

Funding

All the local funding for the Project has been committed. The Capital Grant Agreement for the LNTP Period with Hennepin County (\$94,843,963) and HCRRA (\$23,710,991) provides funding for LNTP activities. Business Item 2019-205 amends the Capital Budget to reflect this grant agreement.

Known Support / Opposition

There is no known opposition to this action. Hennepin County is scheduled to act on the CGA at their August 27, 2019 board meeting.