

Transportation Committee

Meeting date: June 10, 2019

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of June 12, 2019

Subject: 2019 Orange Line Funding Agreement with Dakota County Regional Rail Authority

District(s), Member(s): District 5 (Cummings), District 7 (Lilligren), District 8 (Muse), District 15 (Sterner)

Policy/Legal Reference: Policy 3-3c

Staff Prepared/Presented: Wes Kooistra, General Manager, 612-349-7510
Charles Carlson, Director, BRT Projects, 612-349-7639

Division/Department: Metro Transit BRT Projects

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute an interagency agreement with Dakota County Regional Railroad Authority (DCRRA) for \$1,680,000 to fund METRO Orange Line project activities.

Background

DCRRA is a partner with Metro Transit in the delivery of the METRO Orange Line project. The Council authorized the Regional Administrator to apply for 2019 capital grants from Dakota and Hennepin Counties with item 2018-271.

\$1,680,000 will be requested of DCRRA for Orange Line project expenditures. The funding provided through this grant would fulfill DCRRA's remaining CTIB commitment, which was assumed with the dissolution of CTIB in 2017.

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. The Council authorized these funds into the Capital Program with item 2017-159.

Known Support / Opposition

DCRRA is expected to authorize funds for this agreement on June 18, 2019. There is no known opposition.