

## Transportation Committee

Meeting date: October 14, 2019

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of October 23, 2019

**Subject:** 2020 Operating Grant Applications to the Funding Transitway Counties

**District(s), Member(s):** All

**Policy/Legal Reference:** Metropolitan Council 3-2-2

**Staff Prepared/Presented:** Wes Kooistra, General Manager, (612-349-7510); Edwin D. Petrie, Director Finance, (612-349-7624)

**Division/Department:** Metro Transit

### Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to apply for calendar 2020 grants from the counties of Anoka, Hennepin and Ramsey.

### Operating (Base and Non-Annual Share)

- METRO Blue Line LRT Est. \$13.9M
  - Hennepin County - Est. \$13.9M
- METRO Green Line LRT Est. \$13.5M
  - Hennepin County – Est. \$8.1M
  - Ramsey County – Est. \$5.4M
- Northstar Commuter Rail Est. \$7.8M
  - Anoka County – Est. \$6.3M
  - Hennepin County – Est. \$1.5M

### Background

CTIB was created in 2008 by enabling state legislation and the concurrence of five counties in the region (Anoka, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey, and Washington). Its purpose was to provide a dedicated source for capital and operating funds for transitway projects serving the five participating counties. CTIB first awarded grants in 2009.

Under CTIB Resolution #35-2017, the CTIB counties voluntarily dissolved CTIB and terminated the Joint Powers Agreement establishing CTIB so each participating county may impose a transportation sales tax and an excise tax of \$20.00 per motor vehicle for transportation purposes pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 297A.993.

Subsequent to the CTIB dissolution, the counties of Anoka, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey and Washington adopted resolutions to impose up to a one-half percent sales and use tax and a \$20.00 per motor vehicle excise tax for transportation purposes pursuant to Minnesota Statutes section 297A.993. Council action is a prerequisite for all grant applications in excess of \$500,000 or for applications that staff deem appropriate to bring before the Council.

### Rationale

County grant funds will contribute to the proposed 2020 operating budgets for Light Rail and Commuter Rail operations. State law limits state contributions to LRT operations for 50% of the net operating cost with the assumption that County funds will be used to pay the remaining up to the 50% of the net operating

cost. County funds will also be used to pay 41.95% of the net operating cost of Northstar commuter rail operations.

### **Thrive Lens Analysis**

Prosperity

- This business item adds operating funding and reflects strategic investment in regional infrastructure that will promote economic competitiveness and create prosperity for the region.

### **Funding**

The funding and commitment requests listed above total an estimated \$35.2M requested for operating grants for METRO Green Line, METRO Blue Line and Northstar Commuter Rail. The listed grant amounts are estimates and will be finalized prior to the application deadlines.

### **Known Support / Opposition**

No known opposition.