

Transportation Committee

Meeting date: October 28, 2019

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of November 13, 2019

Subject: Gold Line BRT Subordinate Funding Agreement (SFA) No. 03 for 2020 MnDOT Staffing

District(s), Member(s): District 12 (Gonzalez), District 11 (Vento), District 13 (Lee)

Policy/Legal Reference: MN Statutes, Section 473.399

Staff Prepared/Presented: Wes Kooistra, General Manager, 612-349-7510
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Division/Department: Metro Transit BRT Projects/METRO Gold Line Project Office

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute METRO Gold Line Bus Rapid Transit (Gold Line) Subordinate Funding Agreement (SFA) No. 03 to the Master Funding Agreement (MFA) with the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) in the total amount not to exceed \$1,630,609.00 for calendar year 2020.

Background

The Metropolitan Council established the contractual framework with MnDOT on Aug. 23, 2017 when it authorized the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute a Cooperative Agreement and an MFA with MnDOT for the development the Gold Line Project (Business Item 2017-173). Each SFA under the MFA provides a method for the transfer of funds from the Metropolitan Council to MnDOT and defines the amount of funds committed and the specific purpose of the expenditures. The 2020 SFA will reimburse MnDOT for costs incurred for design support, environmental oversight, utility coordination and right of way coordination activities

Rationale

Utilizing MnDOT staff is a cost-effective way to provide expertise in areas such as roadway design, structural engineering, and environmental oversight.

Thrive Lens Analysis

The Gold Line Project supports Thrive outcomes including livability, prosperity, and equity with its investment in high-quality transportation that will make the region more economically competitive by supporting major job creators and increasing workers' access to employment hubs. The Gold Line will distribute transit resources throughout the region, benefitting regional residents and increasing the quality of transit service available.

Funding

Local funding commitment resolutions were passed by Ramsey and Washington Counties in August 2019 for the Engineering and Construction phases. A Capital Grant Agreement will be executed and available funds amended into the Council's Authorized Capital Budget in project 61402 for this SFA.

Known Support / Opposition

The Metropolitan Council and MnDOT have executed Cooperation and Master Funding Agreements; both agencies are committed to working together to advance the GBRT Project.