

## Transportation Committee

Meeting date: October 28, 2019

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of November 13, 2019

**Subject:** Southwest Light Rail Transit (Green Line Extension) Amendment #1 to Master Utility Agreement with Sprint

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

**Policy/Legal Reference:** Minn. Stat. 473.399

**Staff Prepared/Presented:** Wes Kooistra, General Manager, 612-349-7510  
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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 an amendment to the Master Utility Agreement (MUA) with Sprint to add \$2,875,000 for reimbursement of costs, for a new total not to exceed amount of \$3,025,000, associated with relocation of utilities that conflict with the Southwest LRT Project.

### Background

On September 13, 2019, the Council entered into a Master Utility Agreement (MUA) with Sprint to address compensable utility conflicts with the SWLRT Project. The MUA included an estimated not to exceed amount of \$150,000 for services and work. The work scope covered under the amendment includes the relocation of Sprint's cable into a shared utility trench shared by multiple private utility companies on and adjacent to the BNSF-owned Wayzata Subdivision. The amount of the amendment is \$2,875,000, bringing the new total not to exceed amount to \$3,025,000.

### Rationale

The shared utility trench was originally contemplated to be constructed by the SWLRT civil construction contractor through a change order. However, based on scheduling constraints as this work needs to be underway before winter weather sets in, staff determined that it would be more advantageous for the Council to pursue this work with Sprint taking the lead in constructing the shared utility trench. Allowing Sprint to perform this work will also result in a cost savings compared to the estimate provided by the civil construction contractor as cost efficiencies can be realized with Sprint taking the lead to relocate their own assets. This amendment to the MUA allows the Council to reimburse Sprint for this work.

### Thrive Lens Analysis

**Livability:** The Green Line Extension (SWLRT) 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**

Reimbursement of warranted expenses is a Project eligible cost and included in the project budget and funds for the Master Utility Agreement are included in the project budget and the Council's authorized capital budget and are eligible project costs.

### **Known Support / Opposition**

There is no known opposition to this action.