Transportation Committee

Meeting date: Monday, March 23, 2020

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of March 25, 2020

Subject: Joint Powers Agreement: Metro Transit PD & MN Bureau of Criminal Apprehension

District(s), Member(s): All

Policy/Legal Reference: Minnesota Statute § 471.59

Staff Prepared/Presented: Capt. Brooke Blakey, MTPD Executive Officer, 612-349-7200

Division/Department: Police

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize a Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) between the Metro Transit Police Department and the MN Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA) for the purpose of partnership on the Minnesota Human Trafficking Investigators Task Force.

Background

Under Minnesota Statutes, § 471.59, the BCA and the Metro Transit Police Department are empowered to engage in agreements that are necessary to exercise their powers. The parties wish to work together to investigate and prosecute human trafficking and sexual exploitation of children; as such, the Metro Transit Police Department wants to participate in the Minnesota Human Trafficking Investigators Task Force ("MNHITF") as an affiliate member.

Rationale

Metro Transit's daily work consists of moving people throughout the Twin Cities on buses and the light rail and it is incumbent on this agency to keep those riders safe. The potential for human trafficking puts vulnerable people at risk at the hands of predators who may use the transit system to move their victims. As MTPD works diligently to protect all riders, this is yet another tactic by which to do so.

The BCA will provide a Senior Special Agent who will serve as the Commander of the task force.

Thrive Lens Analysis

- Integration: "The Metropolitan Council is committed to integrating its activities to pursue its outcomes, achieve greater efficiencies, and address problems that are too complex for singular approaches."

- Collaboration: "Collaboration recognizes that shared efforts advance our region most effectively toward shared outcomes."

Known Support / Opposition

There is no known opposition.