

Transportation Committee

Meeting date: January 25, 2021

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of February 10, 2021

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| Subject: | Foley Boulevard Reconstruction – Anoka County Joint Powers Agreement, Contract #20I062 |
| District(s), Member(s): | District 9 (Zeran) |
| Policy/Legal Reference: | MN Statutes 117.012, 473.405, and Council Policy, Procurement Policy FM 14-1 |
| Staff Prepared/Presented: | Wes Kooistra, General Manager, 612-349-7510 Marilyn Porter, Director, E&F, 612-349-7689 James Harwood, Assistant Director, E&F, 612-349-7339 George Serumgard, Project Manager, E&F, 612-349-7697 |
| Division/Department: | Metro Transit / Engineering and Facilities |

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute Joint Powers Agreement #20I062 with Anoka County for locally requested roadway and signal improvements on Foley Boulevard (CSAH 11).

Background

Over the past two years Anoka County has been meeting with Metro Transit staff to discuss ways to mitigate impacts to the Foley Boulevard Park-Ride during road and bridge construction along Foley Boulevard.

The reconstruction of Foley Boulevard (between East River Road and Coon Rapids Boulevard) is necessary to eliminate a dangerous at-grade rail crossing west of the park-ride. This grade separation project will eliminate two of the park-ride's existing entrances/exits, reconfigure the surface parking lot, change the circulation of buses, and relocate the passenger boarding platform. Benefits of this project include:

1. Elimination of long delays caused by train traffic
2. Improved safety for pedestrians and vehicles at the RR crossing
3. New shelters, pavement at the park-ride surface parking lot, and passenger boarding plaza
4. Easier / safer access to and from the facility via a new traffic signal on Foley Boulevard at our main entrance

Through this agreement, Anoka County will provide design, property transactions, project management, and construction for reconfiguring the Council's Park-Ride layout to work with the new roadway alignment. This agreement also provides for the County to exercise certain right-of-way management powers that include temporary construction easements, permanent utility easements, and assignment of Right-of-Way property to the Council.

Rationale

Minnesota Statute and Council Policy requires that joint powers agreements in any amount are approved by the Council. An agreement with Anoka County will make County funds available to award the construction contract for the project

Thrive Lens Analysis

The reconstruction of Foley Boulevard, and reorientation/construction of the Park-Ride surface lot, results in new, maintenance free pavements as well as improved access to the Council's transit facility. Improvements to high-quality transportation options in the Northwest corridor will advance the thrive outcome of prosperity. It will do so by making the region more economically competitive through increased workers' access, with affordable convenient transportation, to employment.

The Foley Boulevard Reconstruction project advances the equity outcome by investing in a transit corridor serving communities of color. Improvements to the Park-Ride facility will provide riders with an improved transit experience.

The proposed action advances the stewardship outcome by advancing project delivery efficiently with regional partnership from Anoka County, Mn/Dot, and Coon Rapids.

Funding

This is a zero-cost project for the Council. The proposed action will authorize an agreement that will allow the County to proceed with this \$23.8 Million project resulting in \$1.6 million of improvements made to the Council's facility. The County's funding is separate from any Council project; therefore, budget authorization is not required.

Known Support / Opposition

The Anoka County Board will consider this agreement at an upcoming meeting. There is no known opposition to the project.