

Transportation Committee

Meeting date: June 14, 2021

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of June 23, 2021

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| Subject: | Gold Line Subordinate Funding Agreement #2 with the Office of MN.IT Services for Duct Bank Relocation, Contract 20I051B |
| District(s), Member(s): | District 12 (Gonzalez), District 11 (Vento), District 13 (Lee) |
| Policy/Legal Reference: | MN Statutes, Section 473.399 Metro Transit Subrecipient Monitoring Procedures, 2019 |
| Staff Prepared/Presented: | Wes Kooistra, General Manager, (612) 349-7510 Charles Carlson, Director – BRT Projects, (612) 349-7639 Chris Beckwith, Asst. Director, BRT Projects, (651) 602-1994 |
| Division/Department: | Metro Transit – BRT Projects (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) Number Two with the Office of MN.IT Services (MNIT) in an amount not to exceed \$2,497,770.35.

Background

The Metropolitan Council established a contractual framework with MNIT on June 24, 2020 when it authorized the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute a Master Funding Agreement (MFA) (Contract 20I051) and SFA Number One (Contract 20I051A) with MNIT for the Gold Line (Business Item 2020-161). Each SFA provides a method for the transfer of funds and defines the specific purpose of the expenditures.

SFA Number Two will transfer Council funds to MNIT for the relocation of a fiber duct bank owned by MNIT. The duct bank is located generally north of Interstate 94 and would conflict with the planned Gold Line alignment. This necessitates its relocation prior to the start of major Gold Line construction in 2021. MNIT is currently leading design and engineering services for this work under SFA Number One.

Through this agreement, MNIT will be a subrecipient of funds in the federally supported Gold Line project. Before issuing any procurements over \$50,000, MNIT will obtain Council staff review and approval. During this process, Council staff will review for compliance with FTA requirements and the Office of Equal Opportunity (OEO) will assign a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) goal. Council staff will also review proposals or bids received for federal and DBE compliance and will complete ongoing monitoring of DBE achievement against the goal.

Rationale

This SFA is a necessary contractual mechanism to transfer Project funds to MNIT. Relocation of this duct bank is required for the Gold Line's construction and operations. Execution of this SFA would result in design efficiencies for both agencies and allow the Council to harness MNIT's unique technical expertise related to fiber infrastructure.

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. These agreements additionally support Stewardship by ensuring congruence with the region's existing fiber infrastructure.

Funding

Funding is available through an existing Capital Grant Agreement with the Gold Line Joint Powers Board and is currently reflected in the Council's Authorized Capital Budget under project 61402.

Known Support / Opposition

There is no known opposition to this agreement. The Council and MNIT are committed to working together to advance the Gold Line Project.