

Transportation Committee

Meeting date: October 25, 2021

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of November 10, 2021

Subject: Southwest Light Rail Transit (Green Line Extension) Subordinate Funding Agreement No. 15 with MnDOT

District(s), Member(s): All

Policy/Legal Reference: FM14-2 - Expenditures for the Procurement of Goods and Services Greater than \$500,000

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 Subordinate Funding Agreement (SFA) No. 15 to the Master Funding Agreement (MFA) #121021 with the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for 2022 SWLRT staff support in an amount not to exceed \$1,924,101.

Background

On February 22, 2012, the Council authorized the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute a Cooperation Agreement with MnDOT that established roles and responsibilities in the development of the Green Line Extension. On March 28, 2012, the Council authorized the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute the MFA with MnDOT that established the contractual framework for engineering, technical, and professional services. The MFA authorizes SFAs that allow the Council to pay MnDOT for costs incurred in carrying out its project-related responsibilities. Each SFA outlines the anticipated activities and estimates the amount of funds needed to conduct those activities. SFA No. 15 includes staff support for construction support, right-of-way acquisition, and other professional services for 2022.

Rationale

Council Policy requires Interagency Agreements valued at greater than \$500,000 be approved by Council. Use of MnDOT staff is a cost-effective way to provide expertise in areas such as construction inspection, right-of-way acquisition, and environmental oversight.

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.

Thrive Integration and Collaboration: This agreement with MnDOT advances the Thrive Integration and Collaboration principles as it will continue a productive, decades long partnership between the agencies. Using MnDOT staff for these functions also meets the Council's Stewardship outcome.

Funding

The costs associated with SFA No. 15 are Southwest LRT Project (61001) eligible costs. Funds for SFA No. 15 are available in the Project budget and included in the Council's authorized capital budget.

Known Support / Opposition

No known opposition. The Council and MnDOT have executed Cooperation and Master Funding Agreements; both agencies are committed to working together to advance the SWLRT Project.