

Transportation Committee

Meeting date: October 25, 2021

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of November 10, 2021

Subject: Signature Authority for MVTA Orange Line Connector CMAQ Grant Agreement

District(s), Member(s): 4 – Deb Barber, 15 – Phillip Sterner, 16 – Wendy Wulff

Policy/Legal Reference: 15-2 Grant/Loan Approval Policy, FM 14-2 Expenditures for the Procurement

Staff Prepared/Presented: Michael Hochhalter, Senior Grant Administrator, MTS (651-602-1961)

Division/Department: Transportation / Metropolitan Transportation Services (MTS)

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorizes the Regional Administrator to execute a grant agreement with Minnesota Valley Transit Authority for operating assistance on the Orange Line Connector expansion bus route. in the amount of \$1,920,000.

Background

The Transportation Advisory Board awarded a Congestion Mitigation Air Quality Program (49 U.S.C. 5307) grant to Minnesota Valley Transit Authority through the 2018 regional solicitation on February 20, 2019 for expansion of bus service. Funding is provided for service costs at an 80-percent federal share and 20-percent local share, which Minnesota Valley Transit Authority is responsible for providing.

Rationale

The requested action will allow the Regional Administrator to execute a grant agreement with Minnesota Valley Transit Authority to allow them to implement new service for their Orange Line Connector bus route. The Metropolitan Council may award grant funds to meet specific public purpose needs. Council action is required for the Regional Administrator to execute agreements over \$500,000.

Thrive Lens Analysis

These projects promote stewardship, equity, sustainability, and livability by furthering access to transit.

Funding

Funding for this grant is provided as part of the Congestion Mitigation Air Quality program (49 U.S.C. 5307).

Known Support / Opposition

No known opposition.