

Business Item

Transportation Committee



Committee Meeting Date: October 23, 2023

For the Metropolitan Council: November 8, 2023

Business Item: 2023-198

METRO Green Line Extension Light Rail Transit Project Subordinate Funding Agreement No.17 (12I021Q) with MnDOT for 2024 Staffing

District(s), Member(s):	All
Policy/Legal Reference:	FM 14-2 Expenditures for the Procurement of Goods, Services, and Real Estate Policy
Staff Prepared/Presented:	Lesley Kandaras, General Manager, 612-349-7513 Nick Thompson, Deputy General Manager, 612-349-7507 Jim Alexander, Green Line Extension Project Director, 612-373-3880 Joan Hollick, Deputy Project Director, 612-373-3820
Division/Department:	Metro Transit / METRO Green Line Extension Project Office

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council (“Council”) authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute Subordinate Funding Agreement #17 (contract reference number 12I021Q) with the Minnesota Department of Transportation (“MnDOT”) in an amount not to exceed \$1,218,846.

Background

In 2012, the Council entered into a Master Funding Agreement (“MFA”) with MnDOT for the development of the METRO Green Line Extension Light Rail Transit Project (“the Project”). Each Subordinate Funding Agreement (“SFA”) under the MFA provides a method for the transfer of funds and defines the specific purpose of the expenditures.

This SFA will allow the Council to reimburse MnDOT for eligible professional services costs incurred during calendar year 2024 that are related to the Project. In 2024, MnDOT will assist the Project in design support, construction support, environmental oversight, utility coordination, and right-of-way management activities.

Rationale

Use of MnDOT staff is a cost-effective way to provide expertise in areas such as engineering and design, construction oversight, permitting, and right-of-way coordination.

Council Policy requires Interagency Agreements valued at greater than \$500,000 be approved by the Council.

Thrive Lens Analysis

Successful completion of the METRO Green Line Extension will advance the following Thrive MSP 2040 outcomes:

Stewardship: Transit investment provides an opportunity to reinvest and grow the capacity of our communities, with more inclusive development and intentional investment. It encourages businesses to invest in communities, which means access to resources, community amenities, jobs, and other community assets.

Equity: Connections to other METRO lines and countless local bus routes will bring people to jobs, education, resources and connect diverse and vibrant communities across the region.

Livability: The METRO Green Line Extension will add 14.5 miles to the existing Line, which connects downtown Minneapolis, downtown Saint Paul, and places in-between. This segment connects Eden Prairie, Minnetonka, Hopkins, and St. Louis Park to both downtown Minneapolis and Saint Paul, and major destinations at the University of Minnesota and the State Capitol.

Prosperity: The METRO Green Line Extension reflects strategic investment in regional infrastructure that will promote economic competitiveness and create prosperity for the region. Despite being under construction, the METRO Green Line Extension has already seen more than \$2 billion of existing and planned development investment within a half-mile of the line.

Sustainability: As many as 700,000 more people will be living, working, and moving around the Twin Cities region by 2040. As a result, a robust transportation system is needed to provide the region choices and more mobility.

Funding

Funds are available in the METRO Green Line Extension Project No. 61001 budget and included in the Council's authorized capital budget under Project 61001.

Small Business Inclusion

There are no direct impacts to small business associated with this action.

