

Business Item

Transportation Committee



Committee Meeting Date: October 23, 2023

For the Metropolitan Council: November 8, 2023

Business Item: 2023-250

Joint Powers Agreement with the City of St. Paul, (St. Paul Police Department) Contract 23I002

District(s), Member(s): District 13, Council Member Chai Lee and District 14, Council Member Toni Carter

Policy/Legal Reference: MN Statutes §§ 471.59, 473.407; FM 14-1 Procurement Policy.

Staff Prepared/Presented: Ernest Morales III, Chief of Police, Metro Transit, 612-349-7200
Richard Grates, Captain, Office of the Chief, Metro Transit Police
Joseph R Dotseth, Captain, Support Services, Metro Transit Police
Richard Raymond, Captain, Patrol Operations, Metro Transit Police
Joe Reichstadt, Manager Administration, Metro Transit Police

Division/Department: Metro Transit Police Department

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council ("Council") authorize the Regional Administrator to execute a Joint Powers Agreement ("JPA") # 23I002 with the City of St. Paul.

Background

The Metro Transit Police Department (MTPD) has entered into past mutual aid agreements with the City of St. Paul. These agreements helped clarify roles to include jurisdiction and investigative responsibilities of crimes that occur on Council property as well as the ability for the MTPD to "exercise general law enforcement duties" under Minnesota Statutes section 473.407. An agreement titled 2013JPA was signed by then Chief John Harrington on August 9, 2013. Subsequently MTPD entered into agreement #15M052 titled, Mutual Aid Agreement that needs renewal and Council action. This JPA will clarify the roles and responsibilities for police services between MTPD and the St. Paul Police Department ("SPPD").

Rationale

Minnesota Statutes section 473.407, subd. 1 authorizes the MTPD to "exercise general law enforcement agency authority to assist any law enforcement agency in implementing or carrying out law enforcement activities, programs, or initiatives" upon request from, or under an agreement with, any law enforcement agency and subject to the availability of the MTPD's personnel and other resources. This agreement meets that statutory obligation and serves to clarify the roles and responsibilities of each police agency in providing police and public safety responses, patrol and investigations.

Thrive Lens Analysis

Execution of this JPA will support the Council's Thrive Outcomes of Prosperity, Livability, and Equity.

Investment in high-quality transportation options makes the region more economically competitive through increased access to employment, and support to employers by increasing available workforce with affordable, convenient transportation.

Ensuring the region's existing transit resources are maintained and protected allows the Council to provide efficient, reliable, and safe service to our customers. Safeguarded transit facilities support functions for operations that increase mobility and access to opportunities for all residents, across race, economic means, and ability.

Funding

There are no known costs associated with this agreement.

Small Business Inclusion

There are no direct impacts to small businesses with this action.

