

Business Item

Transportation Committee



Committee meeting date: October 13, 2025

For the Metropolitan Council: October 22, 2025

Business Item: 2025-250

METRO G Line – Joint Powers Agreement (25I050) with Dakota County

District(s), member(s):	District 15 (Obisakin)
Policy/legal reference:	FM 14-1 - Procurement Policy; Minn. Statutes, section 117.012, 473.405, and 471.59
Staff prepared/presented:	Lesley Kandaras, General Manager, 612-349-7513 Nick Thompson, Deputy General Manager, 612-349-7507 Katie Roth, Director, Arterial BRT, 612-349-7772 Adam Smith, Manager, BRT Projects, 612-349-7160 Reed Sherlock, Agreements Lead, Arterial BRT, 612-349-7455
Division/department:	Metro Transit / Arterial BRT

Proposed action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute Joint Powers Agreement 25I050 ("Agreement") with Dakota County related to construction of the METRO G Line project.

Background

The G Line is a planned arterial BRT line that will operate on an 11.5-mile corridor primarily along Rice Street and Robert Street passing through downtown Saint Paul. The southern terminus of the G Line is located at Dakota County's Northern Service Center.

Through this Agreement, Dakota County will exercise its right-of-way management powers necessary for the construction of the G Line, including but not limited to those powers pertaining to the relocation of utilities within County rights-of-way. The County will also grant access to easements and rights-of-way owned or maintained by the County for G Line construction at no cost to the Council.

Rationale

Council policy requires that all Joint Powers Agreements be approved by the Council. A Joint Powers Agreement with Dakota County will facilitate necessary utility relocation for construction of the G Line and provide the Council the necessary County right-of-way interests before a construction contract is awarded for the G Line project in a future Council action.

Thrive Lens Analysis

On Feb. 12, 2025, the Council adopted Imagine 2050, which builds on policy direction in Thrive MSP 2040. Under the Thrive lens, investment in high-quality transit options in the Rice Street / Robert Street G Line corridor currently served by Route 62 and Route 68 will advance the Thrive

outcome of Prosperity by making the region more economically competitive through increased workers' access to employment and support to employers by increasing available workforce with affordable, convenient transportation.

The G Line project advances the Thrive outcome of Equity by improving transit access for people with low incomes and communities of color. About 70 percent of Route 62 and Route 68 customers live in households with lower than average incomes, and over half of Route 62 and Route 68 customers are people of color. Investment in the G Line will provide riders with faster and more reliable service and a more comfortable waiting and riding experience.

Funding

There are no funds exchanged through the execution of this agreement.

Small business inclusion

There are no funds expended, and therefore no small business inclusion, associated with this action.

