

**METRO BLUE LINE EXTENSION
LIGHT RAIL TRANSIT PROJECT**
Section 106 Memorandum of Agreement



**Quarterly Report No. 4
(June – August 31, 2017)**

Prepared by:

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On behalf of:

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Introduction

The METRO Blue Line Extension Light Rail Transit (LRT) Project (Project), previously known as the Bottineau Transitway, is an approximately 13.5-mile long extension of the METRO Blue Line (Hiawatha LRT) located in Hennepin County, Minnesota. The line will begin at the existing Target Field Station (previously known as the Interchange Station) in Minneapolis, where it will connect with the existing METRO Blue and Green LRT lines, and the Northstar Commuter Rail line, and extend along a northwesterly alignment, to connect the cities of Minneapolis, Golden Valley, Robbinsdale, Crystal and Brooklyn Park. The Project includes 11 new stations; five park-and-ride facilities (one existing and four new); accommodations for passenger drop off, bicycle and pedestrian access, and new or restructured local bus routes connecting stations to nearby destinations; and one operations and maintenance facility (OMF).

The Project sponsor, the Metropolitan Council, may receive funding from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and permits from the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) to construct the Project. Therefore, the Project is a federal undertaking and must comply with Section 306108 (previously Section 106 and hereinafter referred to as Section 106) of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (54 United States Code § 306108) and its implementing regulations, 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 800 et. seq. In accordance with 36 CFR Part 800.2(a)(2), the USACE has recognized FTA as the lead federal agency responsible for fulfilling their collective responsibilities for the Project under Section 106.

Pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800 et. seq., FTA, with assistance from the Minnesota Department of Transportation Cultural Resources Unit, consulted with the Minnesota Historic Preservation Office and other interested parties to define an Area of Potential Effect (APE), conduct surveys to identify and evaluate historic properties within the APE for the National Register of Historic Places, assess effects of the Project on historic properties, and resolve adverse effects. The measures FTA agreed to implement as part of the Project to avoid, minimize, and mitigate adverse effects on historic properties are documented in the Memorandum of Agreement between the *Federal Transit Administration and the Minnesota Historic Preservation Office Regarding the METRO Blue Line Extension Light Rail Transit Project, Hennepin County, Minnesota* (MOA), which was executed on August 23, 2016.

This quarterly summary report was prepared to meet the reporting requirements of MOA Stipulation X.A. It provides an itemized listing of all measures required to implement the terms of the MOA, identifies actions FTA has taken during the reporting period to implement those measures, and includes a timetable of activities proposed for implementation within the following reporting period. It also identifies any problems or unexpected issues encountered during the reporting period, any proposed scheduling changes, any disputes and objections submitted or resolved as part of FTA's efforts to carry out the terms of the MOA, and any changes recommended in implementation of the MOA.

Acronyms and Abbreviations

The following is a list of commonly used acronyms and abbreviations that may be found in the reporting table found in the Implementation Efforts section of this report.

APE	Area of Potential Effect
Council	Metropolitan Council
CRU	Cultural Resources Unit
FTA	Federal Transit Administration
GN	Great Northern Railway
GRHD	Grand Rounds Historic District
HPC	Heritage Preservation Commission
LRT	Light Rail Transit
MnDOT	Minnesota Department of Transportation
MnHPO	Minnesota Historic Preservation Office
MOA	Memorandum of Agreement
MPRB	Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board
Project	METRO Blue Line Extension Light Rail Transit Project
Q1	Quarter of the year, in this example, the First Quarter
SOI	Secretary of the Interior
StPM&M	St. Paul, Minneapolis & Manitoba Railroad

Implementation Efforts

This is quarterly report No. 4 prepared under the terms of the Project MOA and covers the reporting period from June 1, 2017 through August 31, 2017.

MOA Action Item	Implementation Schedule	Implementation Status
Stipulation I. Identification of Additional Historic Properties		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Survey and evaluation – post-1965 architecture/history properties and previously unsurveyed historic properties within revised APE 	To be completed prior to the completion of the 90% Plans, anticipated schedule: Q3 2016-Q3 2017	In process
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessment of Effects 	As needed, to be completed only if National Register listed or eligible properties are identified during the survey and evaluation required by Stipulation I.A as identified above.	On-going, as needed, no activity during reporting period
Stipulation II. Project Design Development		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Design Project to meet the SOI's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minneapolis-Golden Valley Segment Robbinsdale Segment 	On-going through completion of the 100% Plans, anticipated schedule: Q3 2016-Q4 2017	On-going, also see Stipulation III
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consultation on Project design – segments required to meet the SOI's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties 	On-going through completion of the 100% Plans, anticipated schedule: Q3 2016-Q4 2017	On-going, also see Stipulation III
Stipulation III. Pre-Construction Design Review		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consultation with MnHPO and other consulting parties to inform the design of the 30% Plans 	Q3 2016	Completed September 2016
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of 30% Plans <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MnDOT CRU/FTA MnHPO 	Q3-Q4 2016	Completed November 2016

MOA Action Item	Implementation Schedule	Implementation Status
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation to inform the design of the 60% Plans 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Owners and residents of properties in the Homewood Residential Historic District (Stipulation XI) 	<p>Required by Stipulation XI, but included here to document progression of the design consultation. To be completed prior to the completion of the 60% Plans, anticipated schedule: Q4 2016, also see Stipulation XI</p>	<p>In process. A design consultation meeting was held with owners and residents of properties in the district on December 2, 2016. Attendees requested an opportunity to provide input on the design of elements not included in the 60% Plans. Therefore, the Project will consult on these elements after the 60% Plans are completed to inform the 90% Plans. Also see Stipulations II and XI.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Owners and residents of properties in the West Broadway Avenue Residential Historic District (Stipulation XII) 	<p>Required by Stipulation XII, but included here to document progression of the design consultation. To be completed prior to the completion of the 60% Plans, anticipated schedule: Q4 2016, also see Stipulation XII</p>	<p>Completed December 2016</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ MnHPO and other consulting parties 	<p>To be completed prior to the completion of the 60% Plans, anticipated schedule: Q4 2016-Q4 2017</p>	<p>In process. Consultation meetings were held with MnHPO and the City of Robbinsdale on June 8, 2017 and July 13, 2017 to inform the design of Project elements that need to meet the SOI's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties. Both meetings focused on design of the retaining wall and related Project elements adjacent to the West Broadway Avenue Historic District. No formal written comments were requested from these meetings. The Project will continue consultation on the Plymouth Avenue Station area during the next reporting period. Formal comments from consulting parties will be requested on the Final 60% Plans for the Plymouth Avenue Station area per Stipulation III.C (see below). Additional consultation is anticipated during the next reporting period to inform the 60% Plans for the Robbinsdale Station area. Also see Stipulation II.</p>

MOA Action Item	Implementation Schedule	Implementation Status
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of 60% Plans <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ MnDOT CRU/FTA ○ MnHPO 	<p>To be completed prior to the review of the 90% Plans, but will be completed in stages as 60% Plans for different Project construction packages are completed: anticipated schedule: Q1-Q3 2017</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Civil 1: Q1-Q2 2017 • Civil 2: anticipated Q1-Q3 2017 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plymouth Avenue Station Area: anticipated Q2-Q3 2017 • Robbinsdale Station Area: anticipated Q3 2017 • OMF: Q1-Q2 2017 • Bridges: anticipated Q2-Q3 2017 • Systems: anticipated Q2-Q3 2017 • Franklin OMF: Q2 2017 	<p>In process. FTA submitted the Civil 1 and 2, and OMF 60% Plans, with the exception of plans for the Plymouth Avenue and Robbinsdale Station areas, to MnHPO for concurrence during the previous reporting period. MnHPO concurred with FTA's findings and provided some additional comments on June 19, 2017. MnDOT CRU completed its review of the 60% Plans for Bridges, Systems, and Franklin OMF on August 18, 2017 and notified FTA of its findings. The findings are under review at FTA. FTA's review will be completed and a determination sent to MnHPO for concurrence early in the next reporting period.</p> <p>MnDOT CRU is in the process of reviewing the revised 60% Plans for the Plymouth Avenue Station area. After MnDOT CRU and FTA complete their reviews, FTA will provide these plans to MnHPO for concurrence and to consulting parties for comment (anticipated early in the next reporting period).</p> <p>The Project is in the process of revising the Civil 60% Plans for the Robbinsdale Station area. MnDOT CRU and FTA will review the revised 60% Plans for these areas when they are available. After MnDOT CRU and FTA complete their reviews, FTA will provide these plans to MnHPO for concurrence and to consulting parties for comment.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation with MnHPO and other consulting parties to inform the design of the 90% Plans 	<p>Anticipated schedule: Q2-Q3 2017</p>	<p>In process. Consultation to inform the 90% Plans will continue during the next reporting period. Also see Stipulation II.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of 90% Plans <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ MnDOT CRU/FTA 	<p>Anticipated schedule: Q3-Q4 2017</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bassett Creek Tunnel Early Construction: Q3 2017 	<p>Not started, expected to begin during next reporting period</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of 100% Plans <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ MnDOT CRU/FTA 	<p>To be completed prior to the start of Project construction, anticipated schedule: Q4 2017-Q1 2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bassett Creek Tunnel Early Construction: Q3 2017 	<p>Not started</p>
<p>Stipulation IV. Construction Protection Plan</p>		

MOA Action Item	Implementation Schedule	Implementation Status
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction Protection Plan 	To be completed prior to the start of Project construction, anticipated schedule: Q4 2016-Q4 2017	In process. The Council prepared a construction protection plan exclusively for the Bassett Creek Tunnel Realignment Early Construction Project work that is anticipated to begin in Q4 2017. FTA anticipates completing its review of this plan during the next reporting period and will provide it to MnHPO for concurrence and other consulting parties for comment. Work on the project-wide Construction Protection Plan will continue during the next reporting period. Also see Stipulation XIII.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vibration Management and Remediation Monitoring Reporting 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Pre-Construction Survey Reporting 	To be completed prior to the start of Project construction, anticipated schedule: Q2-Q3 2018	Not started
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Post-Construction Survey Reporting 	Will be on-going during Project construction, to be completed in the quarter following completion of Project construction, anticipated timeframe: Q3 2018-2021	Not started
Stipulation V. Noise Mitigation		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quiet Zones 	Design to be developed and reviewed per Stipulations II and III, infrastructure to be installed before Project construction is completed and FRA approval to be requested before the Project initiates revenue service operations, anticipated timeframe: Q3 2016-2021	In process. All at-grade shared crossings of LRT and freight rail are being designed to include supplemental safety measures and to qualify for FRA Quiet Zone designation. Design work will continue during next reporting period.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Property Specific Noise Mitigation 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Interior Testing 	To be completed prior to the start of Project construction, anticipated schedule: Q2 2017-Q2 2018	Not started
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Noise Mitigation Plan 	As needed if, as a result of interior testing, FTA determines there is an adverse effect. If needed, anticipated schedule: Q2 2017-2021	Not started
Stipulation VI. National Register of Historic Places Nominations		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Floyd B. Olson Memorial 	To be completed no later than one year from the date the Project initiates revenue service operations, anticipated timeframe: 2021-2022	Not started

MOA Action Item	Implementation Schedule	Implementation Status
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wayman A.M.E. Church 	To be completed no later than one year from the date the Project initiates revenue service operations, anticipated timeframe: 2021-2022	Not started
Stipulation VII. Interpretation of Historic Properties¹		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interpretive Plan 	To be completed prior to, and incorporated into, the Project's 100% Plans, anticipated schedule: Q3 2016-Q4 2017	In process. FTA held a consultation party meeting on June 7, 2017, to consider the content and design of sample interpretive panels and the design and location of integrated interpretive elements. A second, two-part consultation meeting was held on July 20, 2017, to gain input on draft versions of all the planned interpretation (panels and integrated). The Council is using input received during these meetings to inform the development and content of the Draft Interpretive Plan. Work on the Draft Interpretive Plan will continue during the next reporting period. Additional consulting meetings will be held during the next reporting period to receive comments on the Draft Plan and to inform the development of the Final Interpretive Plan.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Installation of Interpretation 	To be installed prior to the initiation of revenue service operations, anticipated timeframe: Q2 2018-2021	Not started
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Website to interpret the Osseo Branch of the StPM&M/GN Historic District and the GRHD: Theodore Wirth Segment 	To be developed after the Final Interpretative Plan is approved and completed and prior to initiation of revenue service operations, anticipated timeframe: Q2 2018-2021	Not started
Stipulation VIII. Floyd B. Olson Memorial		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Treatment Plan 	Anticipated to be completed prior to, and incorporated into, the Project's 100% Plans (MOA does not specify a timeframe), anticipated schedule: Q4 2016-Q1 2018	In process. The Council prepared a Draft Treatment Plan based on input from consulting party meetings held during the previous reporting period. MnDOT CRU completed its review of the Draft Treatment Plan on June 8, 2017, and notified FTA of its findings. FTA agreed with MnDOT CRU's findings and submitted the Plan to MnHPO for concurrence on June 22, 2017, and to consulting parties for comment on June 26, 2017. MnHPO concurred with FTA's findings and provided additional comments on July 19, 2017. Comments from all parties are being used to inform the development and content of the Final Treatment Plan.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Site Improvements 	To be completed no later than one year from the date the Project initiates revenue service operations, anticipated schedule: Q2 2017-Q4 2022	Not started

¹ Interpretation is only for the Osseo Branch of the St. Paul, Minneapolis & Manitoba Railroad / Great Northern Railway Historic District and the Grand Rounds Historic District: Theodore Wirth Segment.

MOA Action Item	Implementation Schedule	Implementation Status
Stipulation IX. Osseo Branch of the St. Paul, Minneapolis & Manitoba Railroad / Great Northern Railway Historic District		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phase II Intensive Level Inventory and Evaluation of Historic Railroad Line(s) in Minnesota: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ One (1) mainline across the entire state of Minnesota, or ○ Up to a total of five (5) shorter mainlines and/or branch lines 	To be completed no later than one year from the date the Project initiates revenue service operations, anticipated timeframe: 2018-2022	Not started
Stipulation X. Grand Rounds Historic District		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Vegetation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Golden Valley Road Park-and-Ride Facility ○ Golden Valley Road Station Trailhead 	To be completed prior to, and incorporated into, the Project's 100% Plans, anticipated schedule: Q3 2016-Q1 2018	In process. Consultation will continue during the next reporting period to inform the design of Project elements within and in the vicinity of the historic district. Also see Stipulations II and III.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plans for the Grand Rounds Historic District: Theodore Wirth Segment 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Preservation Plan 	To be completed no later than one year from the date the Project initiates revenue service operations, anticipated timeframe: 2019-2022	Not started
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Treatments Plan 	To be completed no later than one year from the date the Project initiates revenue service operations, anticipated timeframe: 2019-2022	Not started
Stipulation XI. Homewood Residential Historic District		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional design consultation – meeting with owners and residents of properties in the district to inform Project design 	To be completed prior to the 60% Plans, anticipated schedule: Q4 2016-Q1 2017, also see Stipulations II and III for timeline for other design consultation related to this district and the completion of 60% Plans	Completed December 2016. However, an additional meeting with owners and residents of properties in the district is anticipated to take place during the next reporting period to inform the design of Project elements not included in the 60% Plans. Also see Stipulations III and X.

MOA Action Item	Implementation Schedule	Implementation Status
Stipulation XII. West Broadway Avenue Residential Historic District		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Additional design consultation with owners and residents of properties in the district to inform Project design 	To be completed prior to the 60% Plans, anticipated schedule: Q4 2016-Q1 2017, also see Stipulations II and III for timeline for other design consultation related to this district and the completion of 60% Plans	Completed December 2016
Stipulation XIII. Review Process During Construction		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plan for Unexpected Discoveries 	To be developed and included as part of the Construction Protection Plan, anticipated schedule: Q3 2016-Q4 2017	In process. The Council has prepared a draft Plan for Unexpected Discoveries for the Construction Protection Plan for the Bassett Creek Tunnel Realignment Early Construction Project. FTA anticipates completing its review of this plan during the next reporting period and will provide it to MnHPO for concurrence and to other consulting parties for comment. Also see Stipulation IV.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project Modifications 	As needed after the completion of the 100% Plans, through the completion of Project construction, anticipated timeframe: Q1 2018-2021	Not started
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Historic Properties Discovered or Unexpectedly Affected as a Result of Project Construction 	As needed during Project construction, anticipated schedule: Q2 2018-2021	Not started
Stipulation XIV. Resolution of Additional Adverse Effects	As needed during duration of MOA implementation, anticipated timeframe: Q3 2016-Q3 2026, or earlier if all MOA measures implemented	On-going, as needed, no activity during reporting period
Stipulation XV. Standards		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carry out work pursuant to the MOA in accordance with the <i>SOI's Standards for Archaeology and Historic Preservation</i> 	Duration of MOA implementation, anticipated timeframe: Q3 2016-Q3 2026, or earlier if all MOA measures implemented	On-going
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FTA oversight to ensure that all activities carried out pursuant to the MOA are done by, or under the direct supervision of, historic preservation professionals who meet the <i>SOI's Professional Qualifications Standards</i> 	Duration of MOA implementation, anticipated timeframe: Q3 2016-Q3 2026, or earlier if all MOA measures implemented	On-going
Stipulation XVI. Monitoring and Reporting		

MOA Action Item	Implementation Schedule	Implementation Status
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quarterly MOA Implementation Summary Report 	Every 3 months following MOA execution until it expires or is terminated, anticipated schedule: Q3 2016-Q3 2026, or earlier if all MOA measures implemented	On-going. The quarterly summary report for the previous reporting period was submitted to MnHPO on June 8, 2017. The next quarterly report will be prepared and submitted at the end of the next reporting period.
Stipulation XVII. Coordination with Other Federal Reviews	As needed during duration of MOA implementation, anticipated timeframe: Q3 2016-Q3 2026, or earlier if all MOA measures implemented	On-going, as needed, no activity during reporting period
Stipulation XVIII. Dispute Resolution	As needed during duration of MOA implementation, anticipated timeframe: Q3 2016-Q3 2026, or earlier if all MOA measures implemented	On-going, as needed, no activity during reporting period
Stipulation XIX. Duration, Amendments, and Termination	As needed during duration of MOA implementation, anticipated timeframe: Q3 2016-Q3 2026, or earlier if all MOA measures implemented	On-going, as needed, no activity during reporting period