

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



**Quarterly Report No. 5  
(September 1 – November 30, 2017)**

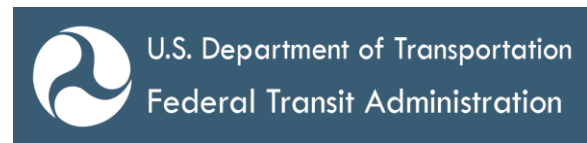
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and

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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. 5 prepared under the terms of the Project MOA and covers the reporting period from September 1, 2017, through November 30, 2017.

MOA Action Item	Implementation Schedule	Implementation Status
<b>Stipulation I. Identification of Additional Historic Properties</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Survey and evaluation – post-1965 architecture/history properties and previously unsurveyed historic properties within revised APE</li> </ul>	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"> <li>• Assessment of Effects</li> </ul>	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
<b>Stipulation II. Project Design Development</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Design Project to meet the SOI's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Minneapolis-Golden Valley Segment</li> <li>○ Robbinsdale Segment</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	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"> <li>• Consultation on Project design – segments required to meet the SOI's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties</li> </ul>	On-going through completion of the 100% Plans, anticipated schedule: Q3 2016-Q4 2017	On-going, also see Stipulation III
<b>Stipulation III. Pre-Construction Design Review</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consultation with MnHPO and other consulting parties to inform the design of the 30% Plans</li> </ul>	Q3 2016	Completed September 2016
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review of 30% Plans               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ MnDOT CRU/FTA</li> <li>○ MnHPO</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Q3-Q4 2016	Completed November 2016

MOA Action Item	Implementation Schedule	Implementation Status
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consultation to inform the design of the 60% Plans</li> </ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Owners and residents of properties in the Homewood Residential Historic District (Stipulation XI)</li> </ul>	<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 3, 2016. Attendees requested an opportunity to provide input on the design of elements not included in the 60% Plans. Therefore, during the next reporting period, MnDOT CRU, on behalf of FTA, will consult with owners and residents of properties in the district to inform the design of the 90% Plans. Also see Stipulations II and XI.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Owners and residents of properties in the West Broadway Avenue Residential Historic District (Stipulation XII)</li> </ul>	<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"> <li>○ MnHPO and other consulting parties</li> </ul>	<p>To be completed prior to the completion of the 60% Plans, anticipated schedule: Q4 2016-Q2 2018</p>	<p>In process. A consultation meeting was held with MnHPO on September 12, 2017, (MPRB and the Cities of Minneapolis and Golden Valley were unable to attend) to inform the 60% design of the station canopies, VCB, and lighting on the secondary access walkway at the Plymouth Avenue Station area, and the 90% design for the intersection of Theodore Wirth Parkway and Golden Valley Road, as well as the retaining walls, landscaping and shoreline treatments along the Project alignment within the historic district. Informal comments on materials were also received from consulting parties who were unable to attend the meeting. Consultation to inform the 60% Plans for the Robbinsdale Park-and-Ride will occur in 2018. Also see “Consultation to inform the design of the 90% Plans” and Stipulation II.</p>

MOA Action Item	Implementation Schedule	Implementation Status
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review of 60% Plans <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ MnDOT CRU/FTA</li> <li>○ MnHPO</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<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"> <li>• Civil 1: Q1-Q2 2017 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Plymouth Avenue Station Area: anticipated Q2-Q3 2017</li> <li>○ Robbinsdale Station Area: anticipated Q4 2017-Q3 2018</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Civil 2: anticipated Q1-Q3 2017</li> <li>• OMF: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Brooklyn Park: Q1-Q2 2017</li> <li>○ Franklin: Q2 2017</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Bridges: anticipated Q2-Q3 2017</li> <li>• Systems: anticipated Q2-Q3 2017</li> </ul>	<p>In process.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Civil 1: Completed June 2017, except for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Plymouth Avenue Station Area: MnDOT CRU completed its review of the Revised 60% Plans for the station area on October 30, 2017, and notified FTA of its findings. FTA adopted MnDOT CRU's findings and submitted the plans to MnHPO for concurrence on November 8, 2017, and to parties for comment on November 9, 2017. Comments are due December 9, 2017.</li> <li>○ Robbinsdale Station Area: The Project is in the process of revising the Civil 60% Plans for the station area. MnDOT CRU and FTA will review the revised 60% Plans 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.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Civil 2: Completed June 2017.</li> <li>• Brooklyn Park OMF: Completed June 2017.</li> <li>• Bridges, Systems, Franklin OMF: MnDOT CRU completed its review of the 60% Plans for Bridges (except for bridges within the Plymouth Avenue Station Area [see above]), Systems, and Franklin OMF packages on August 18, 2017, and notified FTA of its findings. FTA adopted MnDOT CRU's findings and submitted the plans to MnHPO for concurrence on September 19, 2017, and to parties for comment on September 20, 2017. MnHPO concurred with FTA's findings and provided some additional comments on October 23, 2017.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consultation with MnHPO and other consulting parties to inform the design of the 90% Plans</li> </ul>	<p>Anticipated schedule: Q2 2017-Q2 2018</p>	<p>In process. Consultation meetings were held to inform the design of Project elements that need to meet the SOI's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties. Informal comments on materials were also received from consulting parties who were unable to attend the meetings.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• September 12, 2017: Meeting held with MnHPO (MPRB and the Cities of Minneapolis and Golden Valley were unable to attend) to inform the design of Project elements in the Grand Rounds Historic District: Theodore Wirth Segment. Also see "Consultation to inform the design of the 60% Plans."</li> <li>• September 21, 2017: Meeting held with MnHPO (City of Minneapolis unable to attend) to inform the design of Project elements along Trunk Highway 55.</li> <li>• September 28, 2017: Meeting held with MnHPO and the City of Robbinsdale to inform the design of the Robbinsdale Station area.</li> </ul> <p>Consultation to inform the 90% Plans will continue during the next reporting period as needed. Also see Stipulation II.</p>

MOA Action Item	Implementation Schedule	Implementation Status
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review of 90% Plans               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ MnDOT CRU/FTA</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>Anticipated schedule: Q4 2017-Q3 2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bassett Creek Tunnel Early Construction: Q3 2017</li> <li>• Civil 1: anticipated Q4 2017-Q1 2018               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Plymouth Avenue Station Area: anticipated Q4 2017-Q2 2018</li> <li>○ Robbinsdale Station Area (not including Park-and-Ride): anticipated Q4 2017-Q1 2018</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Civil 2: Q4 2017-Q1 2018</li> <li>• Early Construction (Theodore Wirth Bridge and Floodplain Mitigation/MCES): anticipated Q4 2017-Q1 2018</li> <li>• OMF:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Brooklyn Park: anticipated Q4 2017-Q1 2018</li> <li>○ Franklin: anticipated Q4 2017-Q1 2018</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Systems: Q4 2017-Q1 2018</li> <li>• Robbinsdale Station Area (Park and Ride): anticipated Q2-Q3 2018</li> </ul>	<p>In process. MnDOT CRU is in the process of reviewing the 90% Plans. MnDOT CRU and FTA review of the 90% Plans will continue their review of the 90% Plans during the next reporting period.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review of 100% Plans               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ MnDOT CRU/FTA</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>To be completed prior to the start of Project construction, anticipated schedule: Q4 2017-Q4 2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bassett Creek Tunnel Early Construction: Q3-Q4 2017</li> </ul>	<p>In process. MnDOT CRU completed its review of the Bassett Creek Early Construction 100% Plans on August 24, 2017 and found that they met the terms of the MOA. FTA adopted MnDOT CRU's findings and submitted the plans to MnHPO for concurrence on September 19, 2017, and to parties for comment on September 20, 2017. MnHPO provided its concurrence on October 13, 2017. Also see Stipulation IV.</p>
<b>Stipulation IV. Construction Protection Plan</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Construction Protection Plan</li> </ul>	<p>To be completed prior to the start of Project construction, anticipated schedule: Q4 2016-Q4 2017</p>	<p>In process. The Council prepared a Draft Construction Protection Plan for the Bassett Creek Tunnel Realignment Early Construction Project. MnDOT CRU completed its review of the Draft Plan on August 24, 2017, and found that the Draft Plan met the terms of the MOA. FTA adopted MnDOT CRU's findings and submitted the Draft Plan to MnHPO for concurrence on September 19, 2017, and to parties for comment on September 20, 2017. MnHPO had no comments and provided its concurrence on October 13, 2017. Since MnHPO had no comments on the Draft Plan, FTA deemed the Draft Plan to be the Final Plan.</p> <p>Work on the project-wide Construction Protection Plan for Historic Properties is on-going and will continue during the next reporting period. Also see Stipulation XIII.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vibration Management and Remediation Monitoring Reporting</li> </ul>		



MOA Action Item	Implementation Schedule	Implementation Status
○ Pre-Construction Survey Reporting	To be completed prior to the start of Project construction, anticipated schedule: Q2-Q3 2018	Not started
○ 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
<b>Stipulation V. Noise Mitigation</b>		
• 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.
• Property Specific Noise Mitigation		
○ Interior Testing	To be completed prior to the start of Project construction, anticipated schedule: Q2 2017-Q2 2018	Not started
○ 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
<b>Stipulation VI. National Register of Historic Places Nominations</b>		
• 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	In process, work will continue during the next reporting period.
• 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

<b>Stipulation VII. Interpretation of Historic Properties<sup>1</sup></b>		
• Interpretive Plan	To be completed prior to, and incorporated into, the Project's 100% Plans, anticipated schedule: Q3 2016-Q4 2017	In process. The Draft Interpretive Plan was completed in mid-November and is being reviewed by MnDOT CRU and FTA. Once FTA completes its review, it will submit the Draft Plan to MnHPO for concurrence and to MOA concurring parties for comment. Therefore, the consultation anticipated for the previous reporting period to review the Draft Plan with consulting parties to gain input to inform the development of the Final Interpretive Plan has been postponed until Q1 2018.
• Installation of Interpretation	To be installed prior to the initiation of revenue service operations, anticipated timeframe: Q2 2018-2021	Not started
• 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
<b>Stipulation VIII. Floyd B. Olson Memorial</b>		
• 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. Work on the Final Treatment Plan will continue during the next reporting period.
• 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
<b>Stipulation IX. Osseo Branch of the St. Paul, Minneapolis &amp; Manitoba Railroad / Great Northern Railway Historic District</b>		
• Phase II Intensive Level Inventory and Evaluation of Historic Railroad Line(s) in Minnesota: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ One (1) mainline across the entire state of Minnesota, or</li> <li>○ Up to a total of five (5) shorter mainlines and/or branch lines</li> </ul>	To be completed no later than one year from the date the Project initiates revenue service operations, anticipated timeframe: 2018-2022	Not started

<sup>1</sup> 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.

<b>Stipulation X. Grand Rounds Historic District</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Design development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Vegetation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Golden Valley Road Park-and-Ride Facility</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Golden Valley Road Station Trailhead</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	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, as needed, to inform the design of Project elements within and in the vicinity of the historic district. Also see Stipulations II and III.
<b>Stipulation X. Grand Rounds Historic District: Theodore Wirth Segment</b>		
○ 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
○ 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
<b>Stipulation XI. Homewood Residential Historic District</b>		
• 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. A design consultation meeting was held with owners and residents of properties in the district on December 3, 2016. However, attendees requested an opportunity to provide input on the design of elements not included in the 60% Plans. Therefore, 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 the 90% Plans. Also see Stipulations II, III and X.
<b>Stipulation XII. West Broadway Avenue Residential Historic District</b>		
• 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

<b>Stipulation XIII. Review Process During Construction</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plan for Unexpected Discoveries</li> </ul>	To be developed and included as part of the Construction Protection Plan, anticipated schedule: Q3 2016–Q4 2017	<p>In process. The Council prepared a draft Plan for Unexpected Discoveries for the Construction Protection Plan for the Bassett Creek Tunnel Realignment Early Construction Project. MnDOT CRU completed its review of the Draft Construction Protection Plan for Historic Properties on August 24, 2017, and notified FTA of its findings. FTA adopted MnDOT CRU’s findings and submitted the Draft Plan to MnHPO for concurrence on September 19, 2017, and to parties for comment on September 20, 2017. MnHPO had no comments and provided its concurrence on October 13, 2017. Since MnHPO had no comments on the Draft Plan, FTA deemed the Draft Plan to be the Final Plan.</p> <p>Work on the project-wide Construction Protect Plan for Historic Properties, which will include a Plan for Unexpected Discoveries, is on-going and will continue in the next reporting period. Also see Stipulation IV.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Project Modifications</li> </ul>	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"> <li>• Historic Properties Discovered or Unexpectedly Affected as a Result of Project Construction</li> </ul>	As needed during Project construction, anticipated schedule: Q2 2018-2021	Not started
<b>Stipulation XIV. Resolution of Additional Adverse Effects</b>	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
<b>Stipulation XV. Standards</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carry out work pursuant to the MOA in accordance with the <i>SOI’s Standards for Archaeology and Historic Preservation</i></li> </ul>	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"> <li>• 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></li> </ul>	Duration of MOA implementation, anticipated timeframe: Q3 2016-Q3 2026, or earlier if all MOA measures implemented	On-going

<b>Stipulation XVI. Monitoring and Reporting</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Quarterly MOA Implementation Summary Report</li> </ul>	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 September 13, 2017. The next quarterly report will be prepared and submitted at the end of the next reporting period.
<b>Stipulation XVII. Coordination with Other Federal Reviews</b>	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
<b>Stipulation XVIII. Dispute Resolution</b>	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
<b>Stipulation XIX. Duration, Amendments, and Termination</b>	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