METRO BLUE LINE EXTENSION LIGHT RAIL TRANSIT PROJECT

Section 106 Memorandum of Agreement



Quarterly Report No. 7 (March 1, 2018 – May 31, 2018)

Prepared by:

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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; one new operations and maintenance facility (OMF); and expansion of an existing 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 CRF 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

NRHP National Register of Historic Places

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. 7 prepared under the terms of the Project MOA and covers the reporting period from March 1, 2018, through May 31, 2018.

MOA Action Item	Implementation Schedule	Implementation Status
Stipulation I. Identification of Additional Historic Properties		
 Survey and evaluation – post-1965 architecture/history properties and previously unsurveyed historic properties within revised APE 	Survey of post-1965 architecture/history properties within the Project's APE (as of August 2016) are to be completed prior to the completion of the 90% Plans, anticipated schedule: Q3 2016-Q1 2018 Survey of historic properties in areas added to the Project's revised archaeological and architecture/history APEs are dependent on when the APE is revised, anticipated schedule: Q2 2018	In process. MnDOT CRU anticipates submitting the revised Architectural/History and Archaeological APEs to FTA in the next reporting period.
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. • Robbinsdale Municipal Building, anticipated schedule: Q1-Q3 2018	On-going, as needed, no activity during reporting period.
Stipulation II. Project Design Development		
 Design Project to meet the SOI's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties Minneapolis-Golden Valley Segment Robbinsdale Segment 	On-going through completion of the 100% Plans, anticipated schedule: Q3 2016-Q4 2018	On-going, also see Stipulation III
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 2018	On-going, also see Stipulation III
Stipulation III. Pre-Construction Design Review		
 Consultation with MnHPO and other consulting parties to inform the design of the 30% Plans 	Q3 2016	Completed September 2016
• Review of 30% Plans	Q3-Q4 2016	Completed November 2016

MOA Action Item	Implementation Schedule	Implementation Status
o MnDOT CRU/FTA o MnHPO		
• Consultation to inform the design of the 60% Plans		
 Owners and residents of properties in the Homewood Residential Historic District (Stipulation XI) 	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	Completed December 2017. During the reporting period, the Project confirmed that through the October 2017 Minneapolis Open House and subsequent conversations with neighborhood leaders, owners and residents felt the advancement of the designs was consistent with expectations.
o Owners and residents of properties in the West Broadway Avenue Residential Historic District (Stipulation XII)	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	Completed December 2016
o MnHPO and other consulting parties	To be completed prior to the completion of the 60% Plans, anticipated schedule: Q4 2016-Q2 2018	Completed. Also see MOA Action Item "Consultation to inform the design of the 90% Plans" and Stipulation II.
• Review of 60% Plans o MnDOT CRU/FTA o MnHPO	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 • Civil 1: Q1-Q2 2017, except for: • Plymouth Avenue Station Area: anticipated Q2-Q3 2017 • Robbinsdale Park & Ride Facility: anticipated Q4 2017-Q3 2018 • Civil 2: anticipated Q1-Q3 2017 • OMF: • Brooklyn Park: Q1-Q2 2017 • Franklin: Q2 2017 • Bridges: anticipated Q2-Q3 2017 • Systems: anticipated Q2-Q3 2017	Completed April 2018. Civil 1: Completed June 2017, except for: Plymouth Avenue Station Area: Completed December 2017 Robbinsdale Park & Ride Facility: MnDOT CRU reviewed the Final 60% Plans for the Park & Ride Facility and notified FTA of its findings on February 28, 2018. FTA adopted MnDOT CRU's findings and submitted the plans to MnHPO for concurrence on March 13, 2018. MnHPO provided its concurrence on April 16, 2018. (Note: Beginning with the 90% Plans, the Robbinsdale station platform and the area surrounding Hubbard Marketplace are being addressed as part of Civil 1 review.) Civil 2: Completed June 2017 OMF: Brooklyn Park OMF: Completed June 2017 Franklin OMF: Completed October 2017 Systems: Completed October 2017

MOA Action Item	Implementation Schedule	Implementation Status
 Consultation with MnHPO and other consulting parties to inform the design of the 90% Plans 	Anticipated schedule: Q2 2017-Q3 2018	In process. Consultation to inform the 90% Plans will continue during the next reporting period as needed. Also see Stipulation II.
• Review of 90% Plans o MnDOT CRU/FTA	Anticipated schedule: Q4 2017-Q4 2018 Bassett Creek Tunnel Early Construction: Q3 2017 Civil 1: anticipated Q4 2017-Q3 2018, except for: Plymouth Avenue Station Area: anticipated Q4 2017-Q3 2018 Robbinsdale Park & Ride Facility: anticipated Q2 2017-Q4 2018 Civil 2: Q4 2017-Q3 2018 Early Construction (Theodore Wirth Bridge and Floodplain Mitigation/MCES): anticipated Q4 2017-Q3 2018 OMF: Brooklyn Park: anticipated Q4 2017-Q3 2018 Franklin: anticipated Q4 2017-Q3 2018 Bridges: Q4 2017-Q3 2018 Systems: Q4 2017-Q3 2018	 In process. Bassett Creek Tunnel Early Construction: Reviewed at 100% Civil 1, 2, Early Construction Theodore Wirth Bridge, OMF, Bridges, & Systems: MnDOT CRU is in the process of reviewing the 90% Plans. MnDOT CRU and FTA review of the 90% Plans will continue during the next reporting period. Floodplain Mitigation/MCES Early Construction: MnDOT CRU reviewed the Final 90% Plans and notified FTA of its findings on May 7, 2018. FTA adopted MnDOT CRU's findings and submitted the plans to MnHPO for concurrence on May 9, 2018.
• Review of 100% Plans o MnDOT CRU/FTA	To be completed prior to the start of Project construction, anticipated schedule: Q4 2017-Q4 2018. • Bassett Creek Tunnel Early Construction: Q3 2017 • Civil 1 • Plymouth Avenue Station Area: anticipated Q4 2018 • Robbinsdale Park & Ride Facility: anticipated 2019 • Civil 2: anticipated Q4 2018 • Early Construction (Theodore Wirth Bridge and Floodplain Mitigation/MCES): anticipated Q3 2018 • OMF: • Brooklyn Park: anticipated Q4 2018 • Franklin: anticipated Q4 2018 • Bridges: anticipated Q4 2018 • Systems: anticipated Q4 2018	In process. • Bassett Creek Tunnel Early Construction: Completed October 2017 Also see Stipulation IV.
Stipulation IV. Construction Protection Plan		
• Construction Protection Plan	To be completed prior to the start of Project construction, anticipated schedule: Q4 2016-Q3 2019	In process. 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.

MOA Action Item	Implementation Schedule	Implementation Status
Vibration Management and Remediation Monitoring Reporting		
o Pre-Construction Survey Reporting	To be completed prior to the start of Project construction, anticipated schedule: Q2 2018-Q3 2019	Not started
o 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		
• 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		
o Interior Testing	To be completed prior to the start of Project construction, anticipated schedule: Q2 2017-Q3 2019	Not started
o 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		
• 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. The MnHPO informally reviewed a Draft NRHP nomination and indicated it was adequate. Further revisions and formal action will be taken when the final location for the statue has been determined.
• 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 Properties ¹		

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
• Interpretive Plan	To be completed prior to, and incorporated into, the Project's 100% Plans, anticipated schedule: Q3 2016-Q3 2018	In process. FTA submitted the Draft Interpretive Plan to MnHPO and consulting parties for comment on February 22, 2018, and held a consultation meeting on March 15, 2018, to gain additional input on the plan. MnHPO provided its concurrence on the Draft Plan on March 23, 2018. Work on the Final Interpretive Plan will continue in the next reporting period.
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
Stipulation VIII. Floyd B. Olson Memorial		
• 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	Completed. FTA submitted the Plan to MnHPO for concurrence on February 15, 2018. MnHPO provided concurrence on March 19, 2018.
• Site Improvements	To be completed no later than one year from the date the Project initiates revenue service operations, anticipated schedule: Q2 2017-2022	Not started
Stipulation IX. Osseo Branch of the St. Paul, Minneapolis & Manitoba Railroad / Great Northern Railway Historic District		
 Phase II Intensive Level Inventory and Evaluation of Historic Railroad Line(s) in Minnesota: 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		

MOA Action Item	Implementation Schedule	Implementation Status
 Design development Vegetation 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-Q4 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.
 Plans for the Grand Rounds Historic District: Theodore Wirth Segment 		
o 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
o 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		
 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 2017. See Stipulation III.
Stipulation XII. West Broadway Avenue Residential Historic District		
 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		
• Plan for Unexpected Discoveries	To be developed and included as part of the Construction Protection Plan, anticipated schedule: Q3 2016–Q3 2019, also see Stipulation IV.	In process. Work on the project-wide Construction Protection Plan for Historic Properties, which will include a Plan for Unexpected Discoveries, is on-going and will continue in the next reporting period.
• Project Modifications	As needed after the completion of the 100% Plans, through the completion of Project construction, anticipated timeframe: Q1 2019-2021	Not started

MOA Action Item	Implementation Schedule	Implementation Status
 Historic Properties Discovered or Unexpectedly Affected as a Result of Project Construction 	As needed during Project construction, anticipated schedule: Q3 2019-2021	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		
 Carry out work pursuant to the MOA in accordance with the SOI's Standards for Archaeology and Historic Preservation 	Duration of MOA implementation, anticipated timeframe: Q3 2016-Q3 2026, or earlier if all MOA measures implemented	On-going
• 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 SOI's Professional Qualifications Standards	Duration of MOA implementation, anticipated timeframe: Q3 2016-Q3 2026, or earlier if all MOA measures implemented	On-going
Stipulation XVI. Monitoring and Reporting		
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 March 13, 2018. 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