SOUTHWEST LIGHT RAIL TRANSIT PROJECT (METRO GREEN LINE EXTENSION)

Section 106 Memorandum of Agreement



Quarterly Report No. 18 (September 1, 2020 – November 30, 2020)

Prepared by:

Minnesota Department of Transportation 395 John Ireland Boulevard Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155-1899



On behalf of:

Federal Transit Administration Region V 200 West Adams Street, Suite 320 Chicago, IL 60606



and

Metropolitan Council Southwest LRT Project Office 6465 Wayzata Boulevard, Suite 500 St. Louis Park, MN 55426





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Introduction

The Southwest Light Rail Transit (LRT) (METRO Green Line Extension) Project (Project) is an approximately 14.5-mile long extension of the METRO Green Line (Central Corridor LRT). The line will operate from downtown Minneapolis through the communities of St. Louis Park, Hopkins, Minnetonka, and Eden Prairie, passing in close proximity to Edina. The project includes 16 new stations, a new rail support facility in Hopkins, an expansion of the existing Franklin Operation and Maintenance Facility in Minneapolis, approximately 2,500 additional park-and-ride spaces, accommodations for passenger drop off, bicycle and pedestrian access, and new or restructured local bus routes connecting stations to nearby destinations.

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 Southwest Light Rail Transit (METRO Green Line Extension) Project, Hennepin County, Minnesota (MOA), which was executed on June 21, 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 in the Implementation Efforts section of this report.

APE Area of Potential Effect

BNSF Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway

COR Change Order Request

Council Metropolitan Council

CRU Cultural Resources Unit

FTA Federal Transit Administration

GN Great Northern Railway

HPC Heritage Preservation Commission

LRT Light Rail Transit

MHPR Minnesota Historic Property Record

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

OMF Operations and Maintenance Facility

Project Southwest Light Rail Transit/METRO Green Line Extension

Q1 Quarter of the year, in this example, the First Quarter

RSF Rail Support Facility

SCADA Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition

SOI Secretary of the Interior

StPM&M St. Paul, Minneapolis & Manitoba Railroad

TPSS Traction Power Substation(s)

WPA Works Progress Administration

Implementation Efforts

This is quarterly report No. 18 was prepared under the terms of the Project MOA and covers the reporting period from September 1, 2020, through November 30, 2020.

Table 1. MOA Implementation

MOA Action Item	Implementation Schedule	Implementation Status
Stipulation I. Project Design Development		
Design Review - SOI's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties	On-going through completion of the 100% Plans, anticipated schedule: Q3 2016-2022	On-going, also see Stipulations II, III, VI and VII, and Table 2: StPM&M / GN Historic District Measure I
Design Review – Non-SOI's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties	On-going through completion of the 100% Plans, anticipated schedule: Q3 2016-2022	On-going, also see Stipulation II
Stipulation II. Pre-Construction Design Review		
• Review of 90% Plans ¹	 General Project: Q3 2016 Project modifications related to the Council's Agreements with BNSF: anticipated Q2-Q4 2018, also see Stipulation III and Table 2: StPM&M / GN Historic District Measure I Project modifications related to Franklin OMF expansion, Hopkins RSF, and combined bid packages: anticipated Q3 2018-Q4 2020, also see Review of 100% Plans 	 In process. Completed August 2016 for Project as a whole. Project modifications Project modifications required by and related to the Council's Agreements with BNSF: Completed January 2019. Also see Stipulation III and Table 2: StPM&M / GN Historic District Measure I. Completed October 2020. Also see Review of 100% Plans below and Stipulation III.
• Review of 100% Plans	To be completed prior to the start of Project construction, but will be completed in stages as 100% Plans for different Project construction packages are completed, anticipated schedule: Q4 2016-Q4 2021 • Civil: anticipated Q4 2016-Q1 2017	In process. • Civil 100% Plans: Completed February 2017. • Review of Addenda: Completed August 2018.

¹ In accordance with MOA Stipulation II, MnDOT CRU and FTA identified two scope changes and several Civil Construction addenda items that necessitated revision of the Project's Archaeological and Architecture/History APEs. One of these scope changes included the expansion of the existing Franklin OMF. The Hopkins OMF, included in the scope when FTA issued its Section 106 final determination of effect for the Project on November 10, 2015, was removed. The Hopkins site will include a rail support facility (RSF). Operations and maintenance functions previously included at Hopkins OMF will be accommodated at the existing Franklin OMF that was originally constructed to serve the METRO Blue Line. Franklin OMF will require modifications to increase capacity and expand. The size of the OMF will not change. The Franklin OMF expansion was previously part of the Blue Line Extension LRT Project (SHPO #2011-3773). Franklin OMF was transferred from the Blue Line Extension LRT Project to the Southwest Line Rail Transit Project in Q4 2018.

MOA Action Item	Implementation Schedule	Implementation Status
	 Addenda: Q3 2017-Q3 2018 Project Modifications related to the Council's Agreements with BNSF: anticipated Q3 2018-Q4 2018, also see Stipulation III and Table 2: StPM&M / GN Historic District Measure I CORs: anticipated Q4 2018-2022 Systems and Tunnel Facilities: Q1 2017-Q3 2020 Hopkins RSF: anticipated Q4 2020 SCADA: Q3-Q4 2020 Kenilworth Corridor Landscape: anticipated 2022 WPA Walls: anticipated Q1-Q2 2017, also see Stipulation VII Franklin OMF: Q3 2020-Q4 2020 	 Review of the 100% Plans for Project modifications required by and related to the Council's Agreements with BNSF as required by the mitigation plan for the StPM&M / GN Historic District: Completed April 2019. Also see below, Stipulation III and Table 2: StPM&M / GN Historic District Measure I. WPA Walls: Completed April 2017, also see Stipulation VII. Systems and Tunnel Facilities: Completed September 2020. MnHPO concurred with FTA's findings on September 28, 2020. Franklin OMF Expansion and SCADA: Completed October 2020. MnDOT CRU completed its review of the Franklin OMF and SCADA 100% Plans and used them to assess effects on the two properties in the Architecture/History APE for the expansion that FTA is treating as NRHP eligible for the purposes of Section 106: Saloon/The Joint (HE-MPC-05085) and Warehouse/The Cabooze (HE-MPC-19116). After it completed its assessment, MnDOT CRU notified FTA of its findings. FTA completed its review on August 25, 2020, finding that the expansion would have No Adverse Effect on either property, and notified MnHPO and other consulting parties of its findings. As part of its review, FTA also revised the Archaeological APE for the Franklin OMF expansion. MnHPO concurred with FTA's findings on October 22, 2020. Also see Stipulation III. Kenilworth Corridor Landscape: In process, on hold. See Stipulation XII for a summary of CORs reviewed during the reporting period.
Stipulation III. Resolution of Additional Adverse Effects	As needed during duration of MOA implementation (Q2 2016-Q2 2026)	
• StPM&M / GN Historic District	Q4 2017-Q2 2018	Completed, Mitigation Plan implementation in process. Also see Stipulation II and Table 2: StPM&M / GN Historic District Measure I.
• Properties in Areas Added to the APE	As needed: anticipated Q4 2018-Q4 2020	Saloon/The Joint (HE-MPC-05085) and Warehouse/The Cabooze (HE-MPC-19116): Completed October 2020. On August 25, 2020, FTA, with assistance from MnDOT CRU, completed its assessment of effects for these two properties in the APE for the Franklin OMF expansion that it is treating as eligible for the NRHP for the purposes of assessing effects. FTA found that neither property will be adversely effected by the Project and notified MnHPO and MOA concurring parties

MOA Action Item	Implementation Schedule	Implementation Status
		of its findings. MnHPO concurred with FTA's findings on October 22, 2020. Also see Stipulation II.
Stipulation IV. Construction Protection Plan		
• Construction Protection Plan	To be completed prior to the start of Project construction, anticipated schedule: Q3 2018-Q4 2018 • Revisions: Q4 2018-Q1 2019	Completed March 2019. Plan originally completed in April 2017, and revised in Q1 2019. Also see Stipulation XII.
 Vibration Management and Remediation Monitoring Reporting 		
o Pre-Construction Survey Reporting	To be completed prior to the start of Project construction, anticipated schedule: Q2 2019-Q4 2020	In process. Inspection survey work is on-going and will continue into the next reporting period.
o Post-Construction Survey Reporting	On-going during Project construction, to be completed in the quarter following completion of Project construction, anticipated timeframe: Q1 2020-2022	Not started
o Construction Vibration Monitoring	On-going during Project construction, anticipated timeframe Q2 2019-2022.	 On-going. Construction vibration monitoring conducted during this reporting period includes: Minneapolis & St. Louis Railway Depot: Active monitoring, no recorded exceedances of vibration limit. Kenilworth Lagoon (GRHD) WPA retaining walls: Active monitoring, no recorded exceedances of vibration limit. Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul & Pacific Railroad Depot: No active monitoring, no high vibration activities nearby. Peavey-Haglin Experimental Concrete Elevator: No active monitoring, no high vibration activities nearby.
Stipulation V. Archaeological Sites 21HE0436 and 21HE0437		
• Phase III Data Recovery	To be completed prior to the start of Project construction in the vicinity of Sites 21HE0436 and 21HE0437, anticipated schedule: Q2 2018-Q2 2021	In process. Data recovery fieldwork was completed on June 22, 2018. The Council and MnDOT CRU reviewed the first draft of the report in Q2 2019. MnDOT CRU completed the second draft review in October 2020. The final report is anticipated to be completed during the next reporting period.
Interpretation of Archaeological Sites		

MOA Action Item	Implementation Schedule	Implementation Status
o Draft Interpretative Plan	Q2-Q3 2016	Completed May 2016
o Final Interpretative Plan	To be completed after completion of Phase III Data Recovery, anticipated schedule: Q2 2020- Q2 2021	In development, in process. MnHPO provided comments on the draft interpretative plan on May 27, 2016. The City of Minneapolis and Minneapolis HPC provided comments on June 10, 2016. To the extent feasible, the Council will incorporate these comments into the final interpretative plan. Since Phase III Data Recovery artifact analysis is now complete, work on the final interpretative plan resumed in July 2020 and will continue during the next reporting period.
Installation of Interpretation at Royalston Station	To be installed after the Final Interpretative Plan is approved and finished before Project construction is completed, anticipated timeframe: Q3 2020-2022	Not started
o Website to Interpret Sites 21HE0436 and 21HE0437	To be developed after the Final Interpretative Plan is approved and completed prior to initiation of revenue service operations, anticipated timeframe: Q4 2020-2023	Not started
Stipulation VI. Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul & Pacific Railroad Depot		
Design measures to avoid adverse effect: relocate crossover tracks in front of depot 3,420' west and shift noise wall in front of depot 240' west		
o Incorporate design revisions into 90% Plans	Q2-Q3 2016	Completed August 2016
o Consult on revised design prior to completion of 100% Plans	To be completed prior to the final 100% Plans, anticipated schedule: Q3 2016-Q1 2017, also see Stipulation II for timeline of completion of 100% Plans for different Project construction packages	Completed October 2016
o Incorporate design revisions into 100% Plans	To be completed prior to the final 100% Plans, anticipated schedule: Q3 2016-Q4 2019, also see above and Stipulation II for timeline of completion of 100% Plans for different Project construction packages	In process. See above, below and Stipulations II and XII.
• Review of revised design	See Stipulations II and XII	Completed September 2020. MnHPO concurred with FTA's findings that the Systems and Tunnel Facilities 100% Plans do not include any substantive design changes and meet the design requirements on September 28, 2020. Also see above and Stipulations II and XII.

MOA Action Item	Implementation Schedule	Implementation Status
Stipulation VII. Grand Rounds Historic District		
Kenilworth Lagoon Noise Mitigation		
o Incorporate design into Project Plans	To be completed prior to the start of Project construction: Q3 2016-Q1 2017	Completed February 2017
o Construct noise mitigation	To be completed prior to the completion of Project construction, anticipated timeframe: Q2 2020-2021	Not started
 Additional design consultation prior to completion of the 100% Plans 	Q3 2016-Q2 2017	Completed June 2017
Kenilworth Lagoon WPA Rustic Style Retaining Walls		
o Construction plans	To be completed prior to the start of any Project construction in the vicinity of the WPA walls, anticipated schedule: Q3 2016-Q2 2017, also see Stipulation II	Completed April 2017. Also see Stipulation II.
o Deconstruction and reconstruction of wall portion under the Project's Kenilworth Crossing and rehabilitation of wall portions beyond the crossing	To be completed prior to the completion of Project construction, anticipated timeframe: Q2 2019-2021	In process, on hold. Wall segments that needed to be deconstructed to build the freight rail bridge were documented and deconstructed in Q3 2019. Documentation and deconstruction of the remaining segment that needed to be removed for LRT bridge construction was completed on October 23, 2020. Rehabilitation and reconstruction work will begin after the channel bridges are completed. Also see Stipulation IV.
Plans for the Grand Rounds Historic District: Canal System		
o Preservation Plan	To be completed prior to initiation of revenue service operations, anticipated timeframe: 2019-2023	In process. As noted in Quarterly Report No. 14, the MPRB, with collaboration from the Council and assistance from MnDOT CRU, is preparing a preservation plan for the portion of the Grand Rounds Historic District: Canal Segment included within the Cedar Lake-Lake of the Isles Master Plan, intended to meet the requirements of MOA Stipulation VII. During the reporting period MPRB initiated outreach with tribes and completed a site inventory assessment, a historic context, and historic timeline. MPRB also held monthly Citizen Advisory Committee meetings to review the completed materials and to discuss specific site issues, including shoreline stabilization and tree pits. MPRB will continue its community visioning effort during the next reporting

MOA Action Item	Implementation Schedule	Implementation Status
		period. The planning process is being conducted virtually due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
o Treatments Plan	To be completed prior to initiation of revenue service operations, anticipated timeframe: 2021-2023	Not started
Stipulation VIII. Hopkins Commercial Historic District		
National Register of Historic Places Nomination	Work on nomination to be initiated within 6 months of MOA execution and completed prior to initiation of revenue service operations, anticipated timeframe: Q4 2016-2021	In development. Research and work on the nomination is ongoing and will continue during the next reporting period.
Public Education	To be completed prior to initiation of revenue service operations, anticipated timeframe: 2021	Not started
Stipulation IX. 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: Q2 2016-Q2 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: Q2 2016-Q2 2026, or earlier if all MOA measures implemented	On-going
Stipulation X. Monitoring and Reporting		
Quarterly MOA Implementation Summary Report	Every 3 months following MOA execution until it expires or is terminated, anticipated schedule: Q3 2016-Q2 2026, or earlier if all MOA measures implemented	On-going. Quarterly summary report for previous reporting period submitted to MnHPO on September 4, 2020. Next quarterly report to be prepared and submitted at end of next reporting period.
Stipulation XI. Coordination with Other Federal Reviews	As needed for the duration of MOA implementation, anticipated timeframe: Q2 2016-Q2 2026, or earlier if all MOA measures implemented	On-going, as needed, no activity during reporting period, also see Stipulation II.
Stipulation XII. Review Process During Construction		

MOA Action Item	Implementation Schedule	Implementation Status
• Plan for Unexpected Discoveries	To be developed and included as part of the Construction Protection Plan, anticipated schedule: Q3 2016-Q1 2019 • Revisions: Q4 2018-Q1 2019	Completed March 2019. Plan originally completed in April 2017 and revised in Q1 2019. Also see Stipulation IV.
• Project Modifications	After the completion of the 100% Plans, through the completion of Project construction, anticipated timeframe: Q2 2019-2023	In process. Civil construction began in May 2019. • During this reporting period MnDOT CRU reviewed CORs to the 100% Plans to determine potential for changes that would result in a change of effect to a historic property and adherence to SOI's Standards where required. A total of 79 Civil CORs were provided by the Council for potential review, of which 62 were determined by the Council to not require review due to no potential to effect historic properties. A total of 7 Systems and Tunnel Facilities CORs were provided by the Council for potential review, of which 7 were determined to not require review due to no potential to effect historic properties. A total of 9 Franklin OMF CORs were provided by the Council for potential review, of which 7 were determined not the require review due to no potential to effect historic properties. o Civil Change #582, which proposes alternate alignments for a temporary relocation of Cedar Lake Trail near the Lake Street Station was reviewed due to its proximity to an archaeological site discovered earlier this year (see MOA Quarterly Report No. 16). Although the site was determined not eligible for the NRHP, due to the potential for additional significant cultural deposits, an archaeological monitoring plan was prepared. In accordance the monitoring plan, MnDOT recommended that an archaeological monitor to be present during ground disturbing work for the trail construction. MnDOT CRU will continue to review new CORs during the next reporting period. If MnDOT CRU identifies any substantive changes, it will notify FTA of its findings. If FTA finds the item will result in a change of effect to a historic property, it will notify MnHPO and other consulting parties and will consult as appropriate.
Historic Properties Discovered or Unexpectedly Affected as a Result of Project Construction	As needed during Project construction, anticipated timeframe: Q3 2016-Q2 2026, or earlier if all MOA measures implemented	During this reporting period MnDOT CRU was notified of three unexpected discoveries. Two were of bone. All bone was determined to be animal bone and no other cultural material was found. Therefore, they were determined not to be archaeological sites. The third was a steam heat tunnel from the Minneapolis Moline Company factory in Hopkins (HE-HOC-028). The factory was previously evaluated and determined to be not eligible for the NRHP. The tunnel was of typical brick construction and did not possess any potential individual significance that would meet NHRP criteria.

MOA Action Item	Implementation Schedule	Implementation Status
Stipulation XIII. Dispute Resolution	As needed during duration of MOA implementation, anticipated timeframe: Q2 2016-Q2 2026, or earlier if all MOA measures implemented	On-going, as needed, no activity during reporting period
Stipulation XIV. Duration, Amendments, and Termination	As needed during duration of MOA implementation, anticipated timeframe: Q2 2016-Q2 2026, or earlier if all MOA measures implemented	On-going, as needed, no activity during reporting period

Table 2. Adverse Effect Mitigation Plan Implementation

StPM&M / GN Historic District Mitigation Plan Action Item	Implementation Schedule	Implementation Status
Measure I. Project Design Development		
Design Review - SOI's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties	On-going through completion of the 100% Plans, anticipated schedule: Q3 2017-2022, also see Table 1: Stipulations I and II	On-going, also see MOA Stipulations I, II, III, VI, VII and XII.
• Review of 90% Plans	Project modifications related to the Council's Agreements with BNSF: Q2-Q4 2018	Completed January 2019. Also see MOA Stipulations II and III.
• Review of 100% Plans	 Project modifications related to the Council's Agreements with BNSF: Q3 2018-Q2 2019 Plans for interpretative element: anticipated, Q2 2020-Q4 2021 also see Measure III 	Completed April 2019. Also see MOA Stipulations II, III and XII.
Measure II. MHPR		
• Level II MHPR for the StPM&M / GN Historic District (Linden Avenue to 12 th Street North)	To be completed prior to the start of any Project construction within and in the vicinity of the StPM&M / GH Historic District, anticipated schedule: Q3 2018-Q2 2021, also see Table 1: Stipulation III	In process. Initial fieldwork completed on October 30, 2018. Work on the document will continue during the next reporting period. Also see MOA Stipulation XII.
Measure III. Interpretation of the StPM&M / GN Historic District		
Draft Interpretative Plan	Anticipated schedule: 2021	Not started
Final Interpretative Plan	Anticipated schedule: 2021-2022	Not started
• Review of 60% Plans for Interpretation	Anticipated schedule: 2021-2022	Not started

StPM&M / GN Historic District Mitigation Plan Action Item	Implementation Schedule	Implementation Status
• Review of 100% Plans for Interpretation	Anticipated schedule: 2022	Not started
Installation of Interpretation	To be installed after the Final Interpretative Plan is approved and finished before Project construction is completed, anticipated timeframe: 2022-2023	Not started
Website to Interpret the StPM&M / GN Historic District	To be developed after the Final Interpretative Plan is approved and completed prior to initiation of revenue service operations, anticipated timeframe: 2022-2023	Not started