



Request for City Council Committee Action from the Department of Public Works

Date: January 6, 2015

To: Honorable Kevin Reich, Chair Transportation and Public Works Committee

Referral: Honorable John Quincy, Chair Ways and Means

Subject: **Authorization to Execute the Master Funding Agreement for the Southwest LRT Project**

Recommendation:

- A. Authorize the proper City Officials to execute the proposed Master Funding Agreement, with the Metropolitan Council for the Southwest LRT Project.
- B. Authorize any proper City official acting on behalf of the City to comply with and certify compliance every year with the most recent version of the federal "Annual List of Certifications and Assurances for Federal Transit Administration Grants and Cooperative Agreements".
- C. Authorize the Director of Public Works to be the representative for the City for the purposes of signing the FTA Certifications and Assurances and any other documents necessary to qualify to receive project funding for the Southwest LRT project.
- D. Authorize the City Attorney to sign any required legal certifications necessary to qualify to receive project funding for the Southwest LRT project.

Previous Directives:

August 29, 2014: Approved the preliminary design plans for the Southwest Corridor Light Rail Project that was submitted to the City by the Metropolitan Council on July 10, 2014, in order to fulfill the requirements of Minnesota Statutes, Section 473.3994, Subd. 3.

August 29, 2014: Authorized proper City officials to enter into and execute the Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Minneapolis and Metropolitan Council on the Proposed Redesign of a Portion of Southwest Light Rail Project (SWLRT).

August 29, 2014: Authorized proper City officials to enter into and execute the Memorandum of Understanding between the City and the Metropolitan Council on the Preservation of Kenilworth Corridor in Public Ownership and Control.

August 29, 2014: Authorized proper City officials to enter into and execute a Memorandum of Understanding between the City and the Hennepin County Regional Railroad Authority (HCRRA) regarding SWLRT.

Department Information

Prepared by: Paul Miller, Project Manager 673-3603, Transportation Planning & Engineering

Approved by: _____
Steven A. Kotke, P.E., Director of Public Works

Presenters in Committee: Paul Miller, Project Manager

Financial Impact

- No financial impact

Community Impact

- Neighborhood Notification: The Southwest LRT Project Office is working regularly with the neighborhoods impacted by the project through a Community Advisory Committee, and a Business Advisory Committee, as well by holding various meetings with individual neighborhoods, residents and business groups.
- City Goals:
 - Living well: Minneapolis is safe and livable and has an active and connected way of life. High-quality and convenient transportation options connect every corner of the city.
 - A hub of economic activity and innovation: Businesses – big and small – start, move, stay and grow here. Infrastructure, public services and community assets support businesses and commerce.
 - Great Places: Natural and built spaces work together and our environment is protected. We manage and improve the city's infrastructure for current and future needs.

Supporting Information

The 15.8 mile long Southwest Corridor (Green Line Extension) is a regional light rail transit corridor that serves Minneapolis, St. Louis Park, Hopkins, Minnetonka, and Eden Prairie (Attachment A). Once completed, the Southwest Corridor will directly connect to the Hiawatha LRT Corridor (Blue Line), to the Northstar Commuter Rail Line, and to the planned Bottineau Corridor Line (Blue Line Extension) in Downtown Minneapolis. The project is expected to serve an estimated 29,660 riders per weekday, is proposed to have 17 stations, and will cost an estimated \$1.653 billion. When completed, the Southwest Corridor will interline with the Central Corridor LRT (Green Line), allowing for a one-seat ride between Eden Prairie and Downtown St. Paul.

Master Funding Agreement

It is anticipated that the City will be involved in certain activities or will provide materials in connection with the Project and the Met Council will pass thru federal, state, CTIB or other local funds to the City for costs associated with such Project activities and/or materials. In addition, it is anticipated that the City may provide partial funding for certain project components through the transfer of City funds to the Met Council.

In order to provide a mechanism for the transfer of Project funds to the City from the Met Council and for the transfer of City funds to the Met Council, a Master Funding Agreement has been prepared by the Met Council. The Master funding agreement includes contractual provisions that require the City to comply with a long list of specified federal grant and procurement requirements for FTA projects along with various other federal and state laws and regulations. The Master Funding Agreement outlines a process to enter into subsequent subordinate funding agreements that specify costs and scopes of work for any City participation in the project and the associated reimbursements.

FTA Certifications and Assurances

Federal FTA funding is subject to all applicable FTA and other federal requirements. The Certifications and Assurances form affirms that the City of Minneapolis agrees to comply with a comprehensive list of applicable federal funding provisions and requirements and that the City has the legal authority to agree to and carry out all of these provisions. The City and its attorney are required to make these certifications to receive project funding from the Met Council.

Recommendation:

Authorize the proper City Officials to execute the proposed Master Funding Agreement, with the Metropolitan Council for the Southwest LRT Project, and authorize any proper City official acting, on behalf of the City, to comply with and certify compliance every year with the most recent version of the federal "Annual List of Certifications and Assurances for Federal Transit Administration Grants and Cooperative Agreements". Authorize the Director of Public Works to be the representative for the City for the purposes of signing the FTA Certifications and Assurances and any other documents necessary to qualify to receive project funding for the Southwest LRT project. Authorize the City Attorney to sign any required legal certifications necessary to qualify to receive project funding for the Southwest LRT project.

Attachment

Master Funding Agreement

cc: Council Member Yang, Ward 5
Council Member Goodman, Ward 7
Council Member Palmisano, Ward 13
Heidi Hamilton, Public Works
Jon Wertjes, Transportation and Parking Services
Don Elwood, Transportation Planning and Engineering