

City of Minneapolis
Request for Committee Action

To: Transportation & Public Works
Date: 1/5/2016
Referral: Ways & Means
From: Public Works Department
Prepared by: Nathan Koster
Presented by: Nathan Koster, Transportation Planner, TPP
File type: Action
Subcategory: Contracts & Agreements

Subject:

Nicollet-Central Modern Streetcar Master Funding Agreement with Metropolitan Council

Description:

Authorizing the proper city officials to extend the term of the master funding agreement with Metropolitan Council for the Nicollet-Central Modern Streetcar project from December 31, 2015 to December 31, 2016.

Previous Actions:

November 18, 2014 – City council authorized an extension of the master funding agreement with Metropolitan Council for the Nicollet-Central Modern Streetcar project from December 31, 2014 to December 31, 2015.

December 6, 2013 – City council authorized a master funding agreement with the Metropolitan Council to conduct environmental review and pre-project development activities for the Nicollet-Central Modern Streetcar, for an amount not to exceed \$150,000.

Background/Analysis:

In October 2013, the City Council approved a recommended locally preferred alternative (LPA) for the corridor as modern streetcar running between Lake Street and at least 5th Street NE on Nicollet Avenue, Nicollet Mall and Hennepin/1st Avenues, using the Hennepin Avenue bridge to cross the Mississippi River. The Council also authorized the next phase of study, which is to conduct an Environmental Assessment and Section 106 Review for the recommended modern streetcar project. That work is under way and being guided by a project management team that includes the City of Minneapolis and Metropolitan Council.

To support that work, the City Council authorized a master funding agreement with the Metropolitan Council to conduct environmental review and pre-project development activities for the Nicollet-Central Modern Streetcar, for an amount not to exceed \$150,000. The term of that contract ends December 31, 2015; however, the Environmental Assessment and Section 106 Review are expected to continue through mid-2016.

Therefore, staff recommends that the term of the master funding agreement with Metropolitan Council for the Nicollet-Central Modern Streetcar project extend from December 31, 2015 to December 31, 2016.

Financial Review:

No additional appropriation required, amount included in current budget.