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Transportation Committee

Meeting date: May 10, 2010

Metropolitan Council Meeting of May 26, 2010

ADVISORY INFORMATION

Date: April 29, 2010

Subject: Central Corridor Light Rail Transit: Cooperative Funding Agreement for Construction with Ramsey and Hennepin County Regional Rail Authorities

District(s), Member(s): All

Policy/Legal Reference: MN Statutes 473.3999 and 473.405

Staff Prepared/Presented: Brian J. Lamb, General Manager, 612-349-7510
Mark W. Fuhrmann, Deputy Gen. Manager,
651-602-1942

Rich Rovang, CCLRT Project Director 651-602-1941
Jim Alexander, Assistant Director Transit Systems
Dev. 651-602-1937

Division/Department: Metro Transit / Central Corridor Project Office

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute a Cooperative Funding Agreement for Central Corridor Light Rail Transit (CCLRT) Construction with Ramsey and Hennepin County Regional Railroad Authorities (RCRRA and HCRRA).

Background

The Metropolitan Council, RCRRA, and HCRRA have mutually entered into a Memorandum of Understanding in August 2006, a Cooperative Funding for Preliminary Engineering in July 2007, and a Cooperative Funding Agreement for Preliminary Engineering /Final Design in August 2009.

The Metropolitan Council, RCRRA, and HCRRA anticipate the CCLRT Project will require contribution of funds from the regional railroad authorities for construction work prior to receipt of the Full Funding Grant Agreement (FFGA) to be authorized under federal Letters of No Prejudice (LONP) and after the FFGA for construction build-out of CCLRT.

Rationale

Execution of this agreement demonstrates to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) local funding partner commitments. Agreements over \$250,000 require Metropolitan Council authorization.

Funding

RCRRA has authorized resolutions committing a total of \$66,411,000 (7% of project) to the CCLRT Project. HCRRA has authorized resolutions committing \$28,239,000 (3% of project) to the CCLRT Project. These RRA commitments total \$94,650,000 which is consistent with funding shares of the \$956,900,000 project budget. The proposed Cooperative Funding Agreement for Construction will authorize an estimated \$68.5 million; RCRRA will contribute \$48.1 million and HCRRA will contribute \$20.4 million. A monthly payment schedule is included as part of the agreement.

Known Support / Opposition

RCRRA and HCRRRA support this cooperative funding agreement. No known opposition.