

T Transportation Committee

November 24, 2008

Item: 2008-338

Consent

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of December 10, 2008

ADVISORY INFORMATION

Date Prepared: November 25, 2008

Subject: CY2009 Counties Transit Improvement Board (CTIB) Grant Agreement for Central Corridor Light Rail Transit

Proposed Action:

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute a CY2009 grant agreement for the Central Corridor Light Rail Transit (LRT) capital project for Preliminary Engineering and Final Design in the amount of \$26,011,818 approved by the Counties Transit Improvement Board (CTIB) on October 29, 2008.

Summary of Committee Discussion / Questions:

This item was presented by Mark Fuhrmann. A motion was made, seconded and the item was passed unanimously.

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Date:	November 10, 2008
Subject:	CY2009 Counties Transit Improvement Board (CTIB) Grant Agreement for Central Corridor Light Rail Transit
District(s), Member(s):	All
Policy/Legal Reference:	Met Council Policy 3-2-2 and 2008 MN Session Laws, Chapter 152, Article 4, Sec. 2, Subd. 5
Staff Prepared/Presented:	Brian J. Lamb, General Manager, 612-349-7510 Mark W. Fuhrmann, Deputy Gen Mgr, 651-602-1942
Division/Department:	Metro Transit/Central Corridor Project office

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute a CY2009 grant agreement for the Central Corridor Light Rail Transit (LRT) capital project for Preliminary Engineering and Final Design in the amount of \$26,011,818 approved by the Counties Transit Improvement Board (CTIB) on October 29, 2008.

Background

CTIB was created in 2008 by enabling state legislation and the concurrence of five counties in the region (Anoka, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey, and Washington) to levy a one-quarter percent sales tax. Its purpose is to provide a dedicated revenue source for capital and operating funds for transitway projects serving the five participating counties. On September 24, 2008, the Council approved Business Item 2008-252 authorizing the Regional Administrator to submit the Central Corridor LRT grant application to CTIB on October 1, 2008. On October 22, 2008, the Council approved Business Item 2008-285 recognizing that the Central Corridor LRT project submitted to CTIB for CY 2009 funding was consistent with the adopted 2030 Transportation Policy Plan.

Rationale

CTIB grant funds for the Central Corridor LRT capital project would contribute to the successful implementation of the Council's 2030 Transportation Policy Plan, which lists Central Corridor LRT as a Tier I transitway. CTIB grant funding allows the Council to take advantage of a new funding source and reduces the need to secure additional capital funds from other local funding sources.

Funding

CTIB requires that capital projects maximize the use and availability of federal funds and have a 10% local contribution from the state. Furthermore, CTIB grant funds will provide 30% of overall capital funding and will be used in conjunction with other local sources of funding available to the Central Corridor LRT Project, including funding from the State of Minnesota (10%), the Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority (7%), and the Hennepin County Regional Railroad Authority (3%).

Known Support / Opposition

CTIB recently approved a grant for the Central Corridor LRT project in the amount of \$26,011,818.