

Committee Report

T Transportation Committee

Metropolitan Council meeting of November 18, 2009

Item: 2009-401

ADVISORY INFORMATION

Date November 10, 2009
Prepared:
Subject: Amendment to Interagency Cooperative Agreement with Northstar Corridor Development Authority for Staff Resources

Proposed Action:

Authorize the Regional Administrator to execute amendment #6 to the Interagency Cooperative Agreement with the Northstar Corridor Development Authority relative to the provision of Council staff resources in 2010, valued at \$430,000.

Summary of Committee Discussion / Questions:

After a brief discussion by staff regarding source of funding, the item passed unanimously.

T Transportation Committee

Meeting date: November 9, 2009

Metropolitan Council meeting: November 18, 2009

ADVISORY INFORMATION

Date: November 3, 2009

Subject: Amendment to Interagency Cooperative Agreement with Northstar Corridor Development Authority for Staff Resources

District(s), Member(s): All

Policy/Legal Reference: Executed Interagency Cooperative Agreement

Staff Brian Lamb, General Manager, 612-349-7510

Prepared/Presented: Mark W. Fuhrmann, Deputy General Manager, 651-602-1942

Richard M. Rovang, Asst. General Manager – TSD, 651-602-1941

Chris Weyer, Director, Transit Sys. Des. & Const. 651-366-5825

Division/Department: Metro Transit

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator:

- to execute amendment #6 to the Interagency Cooperative Agreement with the Northstar Corridor Development Authority relative to the provision of Council staff resources in 2010, valued at \$430,000.

Background

Metropolitan Council entered into the first Interagency Cooperative Agreement for the Northstar project with the Northstar Corridor Development Authority (NCDCA) to provide staff resources in 2005. Amendment #1 was executed for 2006 with amendment #2 executed to reduce some budget staff resources at Metropolitan Council and transfer resources to Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT). Amendment #3 was executed to provide staff resources for 2007, with Amendment #4 and #5 providing for 2008 and 2009 respectively.

Rationale

The Northstar project is beginning revenue operations on November 16, 2009. As the lead agency for purchase of locomotives and passenger coaches, Northstar will continue to require support from Metro Transit staff in the close out of these contracts. Additionally, Metropolitan Council staff will continue to be engaged in a full or part-time capacity supporting the project during construction contract close out as well as other post-operations contract work for Northstar.

This amendment #6 to the Interagency Cooperative Agreement enables the Northstar project to benefit from in-house expertise that Metropolitan Council and Metro Transit can offer to the project. This reduces the need for external consultant support. This amendment extends the Interagency Cooperative Agreement six months to June 30, 2010. Metropolitan Council will continue to invoice the Northstar Corridor Development Authority for direct salary, fringes and overhead for the hours devoted to Northstar activities and any direct costs in an amount not to exceed \$430,000 during 2010.

Funding

With the execution of Northstar's Full Funding Grant Agreement on December 11, 2007, local and federal funding to reimburse the Metropolitan Council for these project expenses has been committed. The \$430,000 is currently budgeted in the Northstar project budget.

Known Support / Opposition

The Northstar Corridor Development Authority (NCDCA) acted recommending approval of this amendment at their Board Meeting on November 5, 2009. Along with the NCDCA, the State of Minnesota has shown support of Northstar with the commitment of bonding funds for its portion of the project. With the execution of the Full Funding Grant Agreement on December 11, 2007, the Federal government confirmed its support of and commitment to funding their portion of the Northstar project.