

T Transportation Committee

For the Metropolitan Council meeting January 26, 2011

ADVISORY INFORMATION

Date January 11, 2011
Prepared:

Subject: Approval of the 2010 Jobs Access Reverse Commute (JARC) and New Freedom Solicitation Project Recommendation

Proposed Action:

That the Metropolitan Council:

- Approve the projects recommended for federal funding for up to \$1,894,801 under the Jobs Access and Reverse Commute (JARC) program and for up to \$643,453 under the New Freedom program as listed in Attachment A.
- Authorize the Regional Administrator to apply for and accept grants from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) for the JARC program and the New Freedom program to fund the recommended projects and the contingency list of JARC projects.

Summary of Committee Discussion / Questions:

Connie Kozlak, MTS Manager Systems Planning, presented this item to the committee and responded to questions from committee members as to why there were so few applications for New Freedoms funding. Kozlak also stated that the unused funds carry over to the next solicitation (scheduled every 2 years), and that a special solicitation in one year could be held if there were applications for New Freedoms funds.

Motion was made by Leppik, seconded by Scherer and passed unanimously.

Hearing no objection, Chair McFarlin stated that this item could proceed to the full Council as a Consent Item.

T Transportation Committee

Meeting date: January 10, 2011

Council Meeting: January 12, 2011

ADVISORY INFORMATION

Date:	December 8, 2010
Subject:	Authorization to Execute Agreements with the Counties Transit Improvement Board (CTIB) for Transit and Rail Operations
District(s), Member(s):	All
Policy/Legal Reference:	Metropolitan Council Policy 3-2-2 and 2008 MN Session Laws, Chapter 152, Article 4, Sec. 2, Subd. 5
Staff Prepared/Presented:	Edwin D. Petrie, Metro Transit Director of Finance (612) 349-7624 Amy Vennewitz, MTS Deputy Director (651) 602-1058
Division/Department:	Metro Transit and Metropolitan Transportation Services

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute agreements with the Counties Transit Improvement Board (CTIB) to receive operating funds for CY11 for the following projects:

- Hiawatha LRT - \$7,314,248
- Northstar Commuter Rail - \$5,714,903
- I-35W BRT - \$152,612
- Cedar Ave. BRT - \$312,351

Background

On August 25, 2010, the Council approved Business Item 2010-277 authorizing the Regional Administrator to submit these operating grant applications to CTIB. The Council grant applications are consistent with the adopted 2030 Transportation Policy Plan and 2011 Operating Budget. On November 17, 2010 CTIB awarded these grants. This proposed action will allow contracts to be executed with CTIB to accept the grant awards.

Rationale

CTIB operating grant funds provide 50% of the net cost of transitway operations and will assist in reaching the regional goal of doubling transit ridership by 2030. In addition, state law limits state contributions to light rail operations to 50% of the net subsidy with the assumption that CTIB funds will be used to pay the remaining 50% of the net subsidy.

Funding

The CTIB operating funding is included as part of the adopted 2011 operating budget. Therefore, no budget amendments are necessary.

Known Support / Opposition

No known opposition.