**Environment Committee** 

Meeting date: March 10, 2009

For the Metropolitan Council Meeting of March 25, 2009

**ADVISORY INFORMATION** 

Date: February 25, 2009

Subject: Authorization to Negotiate and Execute an Master Utility Agreement

with the Minnesota Department of Transportation for Interceptor Modifications Necessitated by the TH 610 Improvements Project -

TH169 to Fernbrook Drive

District(s), Member(s): District 1, Roger Scherer; District 2, Tony Pistilli

Policy/Legal Reference: MN Statutes 473.504

**Staff Prepared/Presented:** Scott Dentz, Manager Interceptor Engineering, 651-602-4503;

Bill Moeller, Assistant General Manager – Interceptor Services,

651-602-4504

**Division/Department:** MCES c/o William G. Moore, 651-602-1162

# **Proposed Action**

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute a Master Utility Agreement with the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for modification of the Elm Creek Interceptor (900410) facilities located in the vicinity of the proposed TH 610 improvements Project – TH 169 to Fernbrook Drive.

## **Background**

The Metropolitan Council currently owns and operates interceptor facilities (900410) that parallel the proposed highway improvements alignment between TH 169 and Fernbrook Drive. MnDOT is proposing to construct the 610 highway improvements using design-build contracting methods. The highway facilities will physically impact the interceptor facility and cause access difficulties for operations and maintenance crews. The Master Utility Agreement will identify interceptor impacts and provide a framework through which each impact will be addressed and resolved to avoid the impact, how necessary improvements to the interceptor are implemented, and cost responsibility. Improvements to the interceptor facilities, if any, will be undertaken by the MnDOT contractor to avoid unnecessary interference, conflicts, and inefficiencies that arise when multiple contractors occupy a single site.

#### Rationale

Agreements with outside agencies require Council authorization. Authorization to negotiate and execute this agreement with MnDOT to construct the interceptor modifications will save the region money, reduce disruption to the region and accelerate the completion of the TH 610 improvements – TH 169 to Fernbrook Drive project.

## **Funding**

The cost of the modifications will be paid for by MnDot.

### **Known Support / Opposition**

No known opposition.