

T Transportation Committee

Meeting date: November 26, 2007

For Metropolitan Council Meeting December 12, 2007

ADVISORY INFORMATION

Date:	November 19, 2007
Subject:	Cedar Lake Trail Interagency Cooperation Agreement
District(s), Member(s)	District 7, Annette Meeks, 612-341-8168
Policy/Legal Reference:	MN Statute 473.129 sub. 7 and 473.405
Staff Prepared/Presented	Brian Lamb, General Manager, 612-349-7510 Mark W. Fuhrmann, Deputy General Manager, 651-602-1942 Rich Rovang, AGM, Transit Systems Development 651-602-1941 Chris Weyer, Manager of Transitways Engineering, 651-366-5825
Division/Department:	Metro Transit

Proposed Action/Motion: That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute an Interagency Cooperation Agreement with the State of Minnesota, the Northstar Corridor Development Authority, and the City of Minneapolis to provide a limited use permit for the Cedar Lake Trail along the Northstar Commuter Rail corridor in downtown Minneapolis between North Fifth Street and North Washington Avenue.

Issue(s)

- Council authorization is required for interagency cooperation agreements.

Overview and Funding

As part of the Northstar Corridor Commuter Rail project, the Minneapolis Northstar Station will be constructed adjacent to the new Minnesota Twins Ballpark. The Northstar Commuter Rail project is being built by MnDOT, in cooperation with the NCDA and Metropolitan Council, and will be turned over to Metropolitan Council for ownership, operation and maintenance.

The city of Minneapolis is intending to construct a portion of the Cedar Lake Trail along the new Twins Ballpark and adjacent to the commuter rail platform between North Fifth Street and North Washington Avenue in downtown Minneapolis.

In consideration for a limited use permit to build a portion of the Cedar Lake Trail on property acquired to accommodate the commuter rail line; Minneapolis will pay the Northstar project \$43,000. This property was acquired by Northstar to accommodate the construction of a retaining wall separating the tracks and neighboring property.

The city has also agreed to provide access, via the trail, to the commuter rail platform for purposes of maintaining the rail platform and an existing MCES sewer interceptor as well as fire, life, safety access. Additionally, this agreement would obligate the city to construct a portion of a retaining wall at its expense necessary to separate the commuter rail line from other property and to restore any property disrupted due to construction activity behind the wall.

This agreement provides the City with needed property rights for the Cedar Lake Trail along this alignment while minimizing the amount of private property necessary to be taken for the trail. It also provides Northstar with needed access rights and fair compensation for land to be used for public trail purposes.