

T Transportation Committee
Meeting date: August 24, 2009

Metropolitan Council Meeting: September 9, 2009

ADVISORY INFORMATION

Date: August 14, 2009
Subject: Master Funding Agreement for the Central Corridor Light Rail Transit Project with the City of Saint Paul
District(s), Member(s): All
Policy/Legal Reference: City of Saint Paul, Municipal Consent of Central Corridor LRT Project, Memorandum of Understanding with City of Saint Paul Cooperative Reconstruction and Utility Relocation Agreement By and Between the Metropolitan Council and the City of Saint Paul
Staff: Brian Lamb, General Manager, 612-349-7510
Prepared/Presented: Mark Fuhrmann, Deputy General Manager, 651-602-1942
Gary Berger, Manager of Administration, 651-602-1945
Division/Department: Metro Transit/Central Corridor Project Office

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute a Master Funding Agreement for the Central Corridor Light Rail Transit Project with the City of Saint Paul. Metropolitan Council execution of this Agreement is contingent upon receipt of a Letter of No Prejudice (LONP) from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). Staff will report on the current status of the LONP at the meeting.

Background

The City of Saint Paul granted Municipal Consent of the Central Corridor Light Rail Transit (LRT) Project's preliminary design plans in July 2008. The Metropolitan Council approved a "Memorandum of Understanding between the Metropolitan Council and the City of Saint Paul for the Central Corridor Light Rail Transit Project" at its April 22, 2009 meeting. The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) addresses project impacts in three areas: design, access and scope.

The Metropolitan Council authorized the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute a Cooperative Reconstruction and Relocation Agreement with the City of Saint Paul for Public Sewers at its May 13, 2009 meeting. The City of Saint Paul executed the Cooperative Reconstruction and Relocation Agreement on June 16, 2009.

The Metropolitan Council and the City of Saint Paul will need a Master Funding Agreement to permit Council payment to the City for inspector staff. The Agreement will also provide for the City of Saint Paul to pay the Council for desired betterments for construction on 4th Street, through downtown and along University Avenue.

Rationale

A Master Funding Agreement will establish a financial framework between the Metropolitan Council and the City of Saint Paul. Subordinate Funding Agreements (SFA) under the Master Funding Agreement will define the specific scope and purpose, the amount of committed funds and responsible payer.

Funding

Project funds in the amount of \$101.2 million are currently authorized in the Council's adopted Capital Budget.

Known Support / Opposition

Saint Paul City Council unanimously approved the Central Corridor Light Rail Transit Project Memorandum of Understanding at its March 18, 2009 meeting.