

Transportation Committee

Meeting date: September 14, 2009

Council Meeting: September 23, 2009

ADVISORY INFORMATION	
Date:	August 26, 2009
Subject:	Authorization to Execute Grant Agreements with MVTA, SouthWest Transit, and the University of Minnesota
District(s), Member(s):	All
Policy/Legal Reference:	2009 Capital Program and Business Item 2009-253
Staff Prepared/Presented:	Arlene McCarthy, MTS Director (651-602-1754) Amy Vennewitz, Deputy Director (651-602-1058) Cole Hiniker, Planner (651-620-1748)
Division/Department:	Metropolitan Transportation Services (MTS)

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute grants with MVTA, SouthWest Transit, and the University of Minnesota for the following amounts:

<i>Agency:</i>	<i>Project:</i>	<i>Existing Amount:</i>	<i>Initial or Amended Amount:</i>
MVTA	Garage Debt – 2009 COP Principal	-	\$400,000
SouthWest Transit	Station Debt – 2009 COP Principal	-	\$400,000
SouthWest Transit	Station Debt – Principal and Interest	-	\$379,515
University of Minnesota	Bus Purchase	\$676,859	\$849,421

Background

MVTA and SouthWest Transit will receive \$400,000 each in regional transit capital funds to pay for principal to accelerate scheduled payments on debt for the Eagan Bus Garage and SouthWest Station in Eden Prairie.

SouthWest Transit will also receive \$303,612 in federal funds and \$75,903 in regional transit capital funds to pay for principal and interest to accelerate scheduled payments on debt for the SouthWest Station.

The University of Minnesota will receive an additional \$172,562 in federal funds to purchase a bus for the campus shuttle service. These funds will be combined with funds remaining in an existing bus purchase agreement to provide enough funding for another bus. The University of Minnesota will provide the federally-required 20% matching funds for this grant.

Rationale

These grants allow regional transit providers to fund transit capital projects using regional transit capital funds and federal funds distributed by the Metropolitan Council.

Funding

The funding for these grants includes \$875,903 in regional transit capital bonds and \$476,174 of federal funds that are included in the 2009 Authorized Capital Program. The University of Minnesota has agreed to provide the federally-required local match for their project.

Known Support / Opposition

No known opposition. Support expressed by SouthWest Transit, MVTA and the University of Minnesota.