

# T Transportation Committee

**Meeting Date: September 13, 2010**

**Metropolitan Council Meeting: Sept. 22, 2010**

<b>ADVISORY INFORMATION</b>	
<b>Date:</b>	<b>September 10, 2010</b>
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Central Corridor Light Rail Transit: Interagency Agreement with City of Minneapolis for Loss of Access on Washington Avenue</b>
<b>Districts/ Member(s):</b>	<b>All</b>
<b>Policy/Legal Reference:</b>	<b>Council Resolution 2008-176</b>
<b>Staff</b>	<b>Brian J. Lamb, General Manager, 612-349-7510</b>
<b>Prepared/Presented:</b>	<b>Mark W. Fuhrmann, Deputy Gen Mgr, 651-602-1942</b> <b>Rich Rovang, CCLRT Project Director, 651-602-1941</b>
<b>Division/Department:</b>	<b>Metro Transit / Central Corridor Project Office</b>

## **Proposed Action/Motion**

That the Metropolitan Council (Council) authorize the Regional Administrator to execute an Interagency Agreement Regarding Removal of Motor Vehicle Traffic from a Portion of Washington Avenue in the City of Minneapolis for the Central Corridor Light Rail (CCLRT) Project with the city of Minneapolis (City), that allocates responsibilities between the City and the Council as a result of removing traffic from a portion of Washington Avenue between Pleasant and Walnut Streets in Minneapolis.

## **Background**

The Council is responsible for design, construction, and operation of the CCLRT project between Minneapolis and St. Paul. A portion of the project will be built as part of a transit/pedestrian mall on Washington Avenue through the University of Minnesota campus. Regular motor vehicle traffic will be restricted on the mall by the City, the road authority with jurisdiction over Washington Avenue. The Council and the City have agreed to implement the Project plans to restrict regular motor vehicle traffic. In order to accomplish this, the Council and the City propose to enter into an Interagency Agreement Regarding Removal of Motor Vehicle Traffic from a Portion of Washington Avenue in the City of Minneapolis for the CCLRT Project.

## **Rationale**

In consideration for implementation by the City of the Project plans to restrict regular motor vehicle traffic on Washington Avenue between Pleasant Street and Walnut Street, the Council has agreed to accept responsibility for defense and indemnification of certain claims against the City that might arise out of the City's restrictions on regular motor vehicle traffic. The City agrees to cooperate with the Council to defend and/or settle any such claims by, among other things, considering limited motor vehicle access between Pleasant Street and Walnut Street on the south side of Washington Avenue. The Council's obligations pursuant to this Agreement do not extend to claims against the City based upon allegations other than those expressly described above.

**Funding**

In the event of a successful claim from a property owner, the Council would be financially responsible for the claim. Funding for such an expense would come from the Project budget. No adjustment to the Project's overall budget of \$956.9 million will be required as part of fulfilling the obligations of this Agreement.

**Known Support/Opposition**

There is no known opposition to execution of this Agreement. The City of Minneapolis supports this agreement.