

T Transportation Committee
For Metropolitan Council meeting of August 12, 2009

Date July 28, 2009
Prepared:
Subject: Southwest Corridor Sub-recipient Grant Agreement with
Hennepin County Regional Rail Authority

Proposed Action:

Authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute a sub-recipient grant agreement (SGA) with the Hennepin County Regional Rail Authority (HCRRA) passing through a \$534,375 Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5339 Alternatives Analysis (AA) grant for the Southwest Corridor project.

Summary of Committee Discussion / Questions:

Motion to move the proposed action was made by Council Member Haas Steffen and seconded by Council Member Leppik.

Council Member Meeks asked if there was any consideration on where operating funds for the line would come from. General Manager Lamb responded yes, discussions are ongoing with the common understanding that adequate funds must be made available to operate any constructed line. Deputy Director Vennewitz added that CTIB and the state would each likely contribute up to 50% for operation of any constructed line.

The motion was approved.



Transportation Committee

Meeting date: July 27, 2009

For Metropolitan Council Meeting: Aug. 12, 2009

ADVISORY INFORMATION

Date: July 21, 2009

Subject: Southwest Corridor Sub-recipient Grant Agreement with Hennepin County Regional Rail Authority

District(s), Member(s): District 3, Robert McFarlin, 952-346-6268

District 5, Polly Bowles, 952-922-8426

District 6, Peggy Leppik, 763-546-3328

District 7, Annette Meeks, 612-341-8168

Policy/Legal Reference: Minnesota Statutes 473.129 and 473.405
FTA Master Agreement

(www.fta.dot.gov/documents/14-Master.pdf)

Staff Prepared/Presented: Brian Lamb, General Manager, 612-349-7510

Ed Petrie, Director, Finance, 612-349-7624

Susan Stensland, Manager, Grants, 612-349-7603

Craig A. Lamothe, Mgr, Facilities Plng, 612-349-7690

Division/Department: Metro Transit/Engineering & Facilities

Proposed Action

Authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute a sub-recipient grant agreement (SGA) with the Hennepin County Regional Rail Authority (HCRRA) passing through a \$534,375 Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5339 Alternatives Analysis (AA) grant for the Southwest Corridor project.

Background

The Southwest Corridor transitway is a proposed 14-mile high frequency exclusive transitway serving the communities of Eden Prairie, Minnetonka, Edina, Hopkins, St. Louis Park and Minneapolis. The Southwest Corridor transitway study, under HCRRA, is continuing the process to finalize the locally preferred alternative (LPA) and prepare documentation needed to request FTA approval of the LPA and entry into Preliminary Engineering (PE).

Rationale

FTA requires that SGAs be established to ensure that FTA regulations flow through to all external partners administering FTA funds. Metropolitan Council (Council) approval is required to enter into interagency agreements, which includes SGAs.

Funding

The Council has made an application to the FTA on behalf of HCRRA for \$534,375 in AA funding, and is expected to receive the award in the coming days. On July 8, 2009, the Council amended the 2009 Authorized Capital Program and 2009 Capital Budget to recognize the \$534,375 in federal funds. HCRRA will provide \$133,594 in local funds as the required match for the federal funds.

Known Support / Opposition

None known.