



Request for City Council Committee Action from the Department of IGR-Grants & Special Projects

Date March 22, 2006

To The Honorable Paul Ostrow, Chair, Ways & Means/Budget Committee
Referral to

Subject FTA Grant MN-0300041-00 (River City Trolley Project)

Recommendation

(Complete action required in the final report, including fund-agency-org, contract number and amendment number, if applicable)

That Public Works-Equipment Services Division staff be directed to solicit bids for grant eligible replacement items, purchase such items and requisition for installment.

That the 2006 Capital Improvement Appropriation Resolution be amended to increase the appropriation of the Public Works – Transportation Capital Agency in the Federal Grants Fund 0300-943-9480, Project # A8003 by \$178,506 and in the Grants-Other Fund 0600-943-9480, Project #A8003 by \$59,503 to be reimbursed by Federal Transit Administration funds of \$178,506 and local match of \$59,503 provided through the Greater Minneapolis Convention and Visitors Association.

Previous Directives

(any past Council actions or directions to staff)

November 2000- Previous capital appropriation request to allow for FTA grant #MN-0300041-00 expenditures on River City Trolley Project

Prepared or Submitted by (name, title, phone) Matt Bower, Senior Resource Coordinator, x2188

Approved by (names, title, signature) Steven Bosacker, City Coordinator _____

Permanent Review Committee (PRC) Approval _____ Not Applicable X _____

Note: To determine if applicable see <http://insite/finance/purchasing/permanent-review-committee-overview.asp>

Policy Review Group (PRG) Approval _____ Date of Approval _____ Not Applicable _____

Note: The Policy Review Group is a committee co-chaired by the City Clerk and the City Coordinator that must review all requests related to establishing or changing enterprise policies.

Presenters in Committee (name, title)

Financial Impact (Check those that apply)

- No financial impact (If checked, go directly to Background/Supporting Information).
- Action requires an appropriation increase to the Capital Budget or Operating Budget.
- Action provides increased revenue for appropriation increase.
- Action requires use of contingency or reserves.
- Business Plan: Action is within the plan. Action requires a change to plan.
- Other financial impact (Explain):
- Request provided to department's finance contact when provided to the Committee Coordinator.

Community Impact (use any categories that apply)

Neighborhood Notification

City Goals -

Create an environment that maximizes economic development opportunities within Minneapolis by focusing on the City's physical and human assets.

Preserve and enhance our environmental, economic and social realms to promote a sustainable Minneapolis

Comprehensive Plan

Zoning Code

Other

Background/Supporting Information Attached

The City of Minneapolis has held a Federal Transit Administration grant (MN-0300041-00) since the early 1990s. The grant's purpose as amended is for the purchase of alternatively fueled trolley vehicles and construction of fueling station. Past expenditures on the grant have consisted of five trolley buses, vehicle engine replacement, installation of compressed natural gas tanks on vehicles and improvements to refueling facilities for the vehicles.

The City's Public Works Equipment Division owns the trolleys and leases them to the Greater Minneapolis Convention and Visitors Association (GMCVA). The trolleys are the River City Trolleys used by the GMCVA to supplement promotional efforts and provide a local tour transport identity to local residents, conventioners and tourists. The trolleys are operated by Laidlaw Transportation under contract to the GMCVA.

The River City Trolleys are now a decade old and require replacement items. FTA has approved the replacement of the air conditioning units for the trolleys as well as the replacement of the city-owned Compressed Natural Gas compressor and skid at the CenterPoint energy fueling facility at 1301 Bluff Street. Public Works Equipment Services Division will requisition for the appropriate replacement parts and installation. These actions should extend life of trolleys through the current operating agreement with Laidlaw.

The grant has a current federal share balance of \$178,506. The City is required by grant terms to provide a 25% match to any federal grant expenditures up to the current balance noted above. GMCVA has agreed to provide a local match of up to \$59,503 required for federal grant expenditures. The match will come out of GMCVA's general operating budget.