Request for City Council Committee Action
From the Department of Public Works

Date: April 28, 2009

To: Honorable Sandra Colvin Roy, Chair Transportation & Public Works Committee

Referral: Honorable Paul Ostrow, Chair Ways & Means Committee

Subject: **Minneapolis-Duluth/Superior Passenger Rail (Northern Lights Express) Funding**

Recommendation:

a. Authorize $50,000 to be expended from fund (04100-600100-507007) to allow 2009 City of Minneapolis participation in the Minneapolis-Duluth/Superior Passenger Rail Alliance Board for the development of the Northern Lights Express.

Previous Directives:

- February 19th, 2008: Appoint Council Member Robert Lilligren and Elizabeth Glidden as alternate to the Minneapolis-Duluth/Superior Passenger Rail Alliance Joint Powers Board.
- January 22nd, 2008: Authorize city officials to enter into the Minneapolis-Duluth/Superior Passenger Rail Alliance Joint Powers Agreement.
- January 22nd, 2008: Approved funding for the city's portion of the rail study in the amount of $57,750.

Prepared by: Donald Pflaum, P.E., P.T.O.E, Transportation Planner 673-2129
Don Elwood, P.E., Director Transportation Planning and Engineering

Approved by:

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Steven A. Kotke, P.E., City Engineer, Director of Public Works

Presenters: Donald Pflaum

Reviews

Permanent Review Committee (PRC):	Approval	NA	
Civil Rights Approval	Approval	NA	
Policy Review Group (PRG):	Approval	NA	____

Financial Impact

No financial impact – Action is within current department budget.

Community Impact

Neighborhood Notification:
City Goals:
Comprehensive Plan:
Zoning Code:

Background/Supporting Information

In January 2008 the City Council authorized the City of Minneapolis to enter into the Minneapolis-Duluth/Superior Passenger Rail Alliance. As part of this action the city agreed to contribute $57,750 toward the 2008 Rail Alliance budget utilizing the parking fund.

The Rail Alliance is soliciting money for 2009 and we are recommending funds from the 4100 fund (Capital Improvements). We anticipate funding requests for future years and the source of this funding will be discussed in the 2010 budget process.