



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

Date: June 7, 2011

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

Referral: Honorable Betsy Hodges, Chair Ways & Means Committee

Subject: **Nicollet-Central Urban Circulator Subrecipient Grant Agreement**

Recommendation:

- a. Authorize the proper City officials to execute a subrecipient agreement with the Metropolitan Council to accept a \$900,000 Federal Transit Administration grant and provide a \$300,000 local match to conduct an alternatives analysis for urban circulator transit services in the Nicollet Avenue and Central Avenue corridor, substantially similar to Petition # _____.
- b. Authorize the proper City officials to make FTA certifications and assurances as provided by federal regulation and as shown by example in Petition # _____.
- c. Increase appropriation and revenue source in project 04100-9010943-32100-CTR716NC by \$900,000.
- d. Receive and accept final costs of \$0 in CTR816SG080, thereby decreasing the appropriation for 04100-9010943 CTR816SG080 by \$100,000 and making \$100,000 of net debt bonds available for reallocation.
- e. Request the concurrence of the Board of Estimate and Taxation in the reallocation of \$100,000 of net debt bonds referenced in recommendation (d). This entire amount shall be reallocated to project 04100-9010943-CTR716NC.

Previous Directives:

- January 18, 2011 – T&PW received and filed quarterly update on streetcar planning.
- September 28, 2010 – T&PW received and filed an update on streetcar planning.
- July 2, 2010 – City Council authorized the proper city officers to submit an application for federal Alternatives Analysis Program funding and/or TIGER II planning grant funding to conduct an alternatives analysis for an initial streetcar line within the Nicollet Avenue and Central Avenue corridors.
- April 2, 2010 – City Council approved the long-term streetcar network as defined in the Minneapolis Streetcar Feasibility Study Final Report dated December 2007; authorized staff to engage partner agencies and private stakeholders and assemble the appropriate information from existing studies and additional study as needed to determine whether the City should enter into the federal project development process and appropriate phasing; and directed staff to return to T&PW Committee at least quarterly with a report on streetcars.
- March 23, 2010 – T&PW received and filed the Minneapolis Streetcar Funding Study.

- January 22, 2008 – T&PW received and filed Minneapolis Streetcar Feasibility Study Final Report dated December 2007.
- October 9, 2007 – T&PW received and filed draft Streetcar Feasibility Study for public review.

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Approved by:

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

Presenters: Anna Flintoft, Transportation Planner

Reviews:

Permanent Review Committee (PRC):	Not Applicable
Civil Rights Affirmative Action Plan:	Not Applicable
Policy Review Group (PRG):	Not Applicable

Financial Impact

No financial impact

Community Impact

Neighborhood Notification: Not applicable
 City Goals: CONNECTED COMMUNITIES
 Comprehensive Plan: Improving the quality of transit service on the Primary Transit Network is consistent with the transportation goals in the Comprehensive Plan.
 Zoning Code: Not Applicable

Background/Supporting Information

As authorized by City Council on July 2, 2010, Public Works submitted an application to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) for the Alternatives Analysis Livability Program Funding Opportunity for a grant to conduct an alternatives analysis for urban circulator transit services in the Nicollet Avenue and Central Avenue corridor, including streetcar and enhanced bus service. The City requested \$900,000 in federal funds, to be matched with \$300,000 in city funds approved by the City Council in the 2007 and 2008 capital improvement programs for streetcar planning. In a December 21, 2010 press release, the FTA announced that Minneapolis' application was one of 24 grants to be awarded, and the grant awards were formally announced in the Federal Register on March 1, 2011.

Since the January 28 T&PW committee meeting, staff has provided a streetcar update presentation to the Loring Park Neighborhood, the Minneapolis Chamber of Commerce Public Policy Forum, the Downtown 2025 Transportation Committee, the U of M Interdisciplinary Transportation Student Organization, and the Midtown Community Works Partnership.

The Metropolitan Council, as the designated recipient for FTA funds, will be the direct recipient of the grant, and a subrecipient grant agreement between the Metropolitan Council and the City of Minneapolis needs to be executed for the City to receive the funds and conduct the analysis. Executing this grant agreement is a key action necessary to initiate the project, as shown in the attached timeline.

Public Works staff is seeking council authorization to execute the proposed subrecipient grant agreement with the Metropolitan Council to accept \$900,000 in federal funds and contribute \$300,000 in local funds and to conduct alternatives analysis for urban circulator transit services

in the Nicollet and Central Avenue corridor, including streetcar and enhanced bus service. Staff also seeks council action to move the \$100,000 in net debt bonds budgeted by the City Council in the 2008 capital improvement program for the Streetcar Initiative to the same project budgeted in 2007 for the Streetcar Initiative. This action simplifies the funding for the Streetcar Initiative by consolidating all funds under a single project number with a total appropriation of \$1,500,000 of which \$217,664.15 has been spent. This leaves a remaining balance of \$1,282,335,85.

Timeline to Initiate Project

1. Grant Application	July 2010-March 2011
City submits grant application to FTA (completed)	July 2010
FTA announces grant award (completed)	December 2010
Grant award published in Federal Register (completed)	March 2011
2. FTA-Met Council Grant Agreement	April-July 2011
City application to Met Council (completed)	April 2011
Met Council application to FTA (underway)	May 2011
FTA approval of Met Council grant application	June/July 2011
3. Met Council-City Subrecipient Grant Agreement	May-July 2011
Met Council authority to execute agreement	May/June 2011
Negotiate grant agreement	May/June 2011
T&PW – request authority to accept funds and execute agreement	June 2011
Execute grant agreement (depends on #2 completion)	July 2011
4. Prepare RFP	May-August 2011
Review scope of work with regional partners	May 2011
Review scope of work with FTA	June 2011
Draft RFP	May/June 2011
Met Council reviews RFP for Federal compliance (depends on #3 completion)	July/August 2011
PRC reviews RFP	August 2011
T&PW – request authority to issue RFP	August 2011
4. Procure Consultant Services	August-December 2011
Issue RFP	Aug/Sept 2011
Proposals Due	Sept/Oct 2011
Select Proposal	Oct/Nov 2011
T&PW – request authority to award contract	Nov/Dec 2011
Contract execution	Nov/Dec 2011

CC: Jack Qvale, Board of Estimate and Taxation
 Lynn Gustafson, Finance
 William Schroeder, Finance
 Mike Abeln, Finance
 Craig Troutman, Finance