

SUBJECT

BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 26-799

Pertaining to Gold Line Bus Rapid Transit Extension Funding Agreement with Metropolitan Council to provide reimbursement for costs incurred from water system relocation.

2026 STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS: Infrastructure Strategy and Performance

Following the opening of the Gold Line in 2025, the Gold Line Extension Project will provide faster, more reliable, and more attractive bus transit service between downtown Minneapolis and downtown St. Paul. The extension will also provide a one-seat ride from downtown Minneapolis to the east metro cities of east St. Paul, Maplewood, Landfall, Oakdale, and Woodbury, and will allow people to travel more efficiently between some of the region's top destinations. The Gold Line Extension will bring new, enhanced stations to I-94 and Snelling Avenue, where customers can connect to the METRO A and B lines, and will travel primarily on existing I-94 freeway shoulders. In Minneapolis, the Gold Line Extension would use existing bus rapid transit stations on 7th and 8th streets, and bring customers as far as the METRO Green Line Extension's at Royalston Avenue/Farmers Market Station in Minneapolis.

This project extends the current Gold Line Bus Rapid Transit project by constructing two BRT stations in St Paul at Snelling Ave. The proposed BRT stations require the exiting water utility system to be modified to accommodate the new station amenities. Since this utility realignment work is initiated by the project, the costs associated with the realignment are paid by the project owner.

The purpose of this agreement is to establish a funding agreement so SPRWS can request reimbursement for staff, vehicle, and material costs to the Metropolitan Council.

RECOMMENDATION

Approval