



**Metro**

Metropolitan Transportation Authority

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**PLANNING & PROGRAMMING COMMITTEE**

**September 17, 2008**

**SUBJECT: EXPO PHASE II TRAVEL DEMAND MODEL REFINEMENTS**

**ACTION: APPROVAL TO EXECUTE FUNDING MOU WITH EXPO  
AUTHORITY**

**RECOMMENDATION**

Authorize the Chief Executive Officer to execute a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Exposition Metro Line Construction Authority (Authority) for an amount not to exceed \$313,729, for the purposes of completing travel demand model refinements required by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) as part of the Expo Phase II New Starts application for preliminary engineering.

**ISSUE**

Our travel demand model is being used by the Authority to evaluate the Expo Phase II project as it goes through the New Starts process. FTA has requested various refinements to the travel demand model for this project. While an interim travel demand model has been completed for preliminary FTA evaluation purposes, additional refinements must be completed and submitted for FTA review in order to receive FTA approval for preliminary engineering. The changes in the travel demand model will enhance the model's ability to describe the allocation of transit trips in the study area.

We have consulted with the Authority and recommend that the most direct way of completing FTA required model refinements is to have the Authority's modeling consultants modify the model to meet FTA requirements. It is estimated that the cost of this activity is approximately \$313,729.

**POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

This recommendation is consistent with the 2001 and the draft 2008 Long Range Transportation Plan and the previous Board direction to environmentally clear the Expo Phase II Project.

## ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

FTA has required specific model refinements to the travel demand model for projects that will be seeking federal New Starts funding. As long as federal New Starts funding is being sought, this work must be done. As an alternative to funding the Authority to perform model upgrade work, this work could be done by our model consultants. We do not recommend this approach because it would not give the Authority as much control over the timing of this work in relation to the overall Expo Phase II Project schedule.

## FINANCIAL IMPACT

The funding of \$313,729 for the travel demand model upgrades is included in the FY09 budget in cost center 4230 Systems Analysis and Research, project 405511 Transit Planning, task 03.01. This project is anticipated to be completed in FY09; however, should funds be needed in FY10 the Chief Planning Officer and Cost Center Manager will be responsible for budgeting in future years.

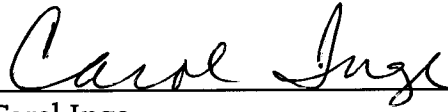
## DISCUSSION

As part of the MOU, we will have review of any refinements to the model and will be involved in all conversations with FTA regarding the model. All refinements will be incorporated into our travel demand model for use on upcoming corridor projects.

## NEXT STEPS

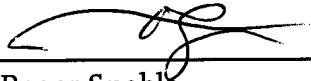
If approved, we will execute an MOU with the Authority.

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Carol Inge  
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Roger Snoble  
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