

HENNEPIN COUNTY

MINNESOTA

FINAL BOARD AGENDA

HENNEPIN COUNTY REGIONAL RAILROAD AUTHORITY

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2024
1:30 PM

Chair: Marion Greene, District 3
Vice Chair: Heather Edelson, District 6
Members: Jeff Lunde, District 1
Irene Fernando, District 2
Angela Conley, District 4
Debbie Goettel, District 5
Kevin Anderson, District 7

1. **Approval of the Agenda**

2. **Minutes from Previous Meeting**

2.A. October 29, 2024 Minutes

Attachments: [RRA.MINUTES-10-29-2024](#)

3. **Claims Register**

4. **New Business**

4.A. [24-HCRRRA-0022](#)

Neg Agmt PR00006791 with Messerli & Kramer for state lobbying services, 01/01/25-12/31/25, NTE \$44,000

4.B. [24-HCRRRA-0023](#)

Neg Agmt PR00006796 with Cardinal Infrastructure LLC for federal lobbying services, 01/01/25-12/31/25, NTE \$245,000; and Neg Agmt A2412661 with the Metropolitan Council for federal lobbying participation, 01/01/25-12/31/25, est recv \$122,500

4.C. [24-HCRRRA-0024](#)

Delegation of authority to acquire tax-forfeited land through public auction

4.D. [24-HCRRRA-0025](#)

Approve the acquisition of tax-forfeit property located on West Broadway in Minneapolis for the Blue Line LRT Extension

Attachments: [Map West Broadway TFL Parcels.pdf](#)

HENNEPIN COUNTY

300 South Sixth Street
Minneapolis, MN
55487-0240

MINNESOTA

Board Action Request

TMP-1600

Item Description:

October 29, 2024 Minutes

HENNEPIN COUNTY

MINNESOTA

BOARD MINUTES

HENNEPIN COUNTY REGIONAL RAILROAD AUTHORITY

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2024
1:30 PM

Chair: Marion Greene, District 3
Vice Chair: Heather Edelson, District 6
Members: Jeff Lunde, District 1
Irene Fernando, District 2
Angela Conley, District 4
Debbie Goettel, District 5
Kevin Anderson, District 7

Commissioner Heather Edelson, Vice-Chair, called the meeting of the Hennepin County Regional Railroad Authority for Tuesday, October 29, 2024 to order at 3:22 p.m.

Present Commissioner Jeff Lunde, Commissioner Irene Fernando, Commissioner Angela Conley, Commissioner Debbie Goettel, Commissioner Kevin Anderson, and Commissioner Heather Edelson

Absent Commissioner Marion Greene

1. Approval of the Agenda

APPROVE

Commissioner Jeff Lunde moved, seconded by Commissioner Kevin Anderson, to approve the Agenda.

Aye Commissioner Lunde Commissioner Fernando Commissioner Conley
Commissioner Goettel Commissioner Anderson Commissioner Edelson

Absent Commissioner Greene

2. Minutes from Previous Meeting

2.A. October 1, 2024 Minutes

APPROVE

Commissioner Kevin Anderson moved, seconded by Commissioner Irene Fernando, to approve the Minutes.

Aye Commissioner Lunde Commissioner Fernando Commissioner Conley
Commissioner Goettel Commissioner Anderson Commissioner
Edelson

Absent Commissioner Greene

3. Claims Register

3.A. [24-HCRRRA-0021](#)

Claims Register for the period ending October 10, 2024

APPROVE/RATIFY

Commissioner Kevin Anderson moved, seconded by Commissioner Jeff Lunde, to approve/ratify the Resolution.

Aye Commissioner Lunde Commissioner Fernando Commissioner Conley
Commissioner Goettel Commissioner Anderson Commissioner
Edelson

Absent Commissioner Greene

4. New Business

There being no further business, the Regional Railroad Authority for Tuesday, October 29, 2024 was declared adjourned at 3:24 p.m. until, Tuesday, November 19, 2024.

Maria Rose
Clerk to the County Board

**Contracting opportunities can be found on the Hennepin County website:
www.hennepin.us**

Board Action Request

24-HCRRRA-0022

Item Description:

Neg Agmt PR00006791 with Messerli & Kramer for state lobbying services, 01/01/25-12/31/25, NTE \$44,000

Resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Executive Director be authorized to negotiate Agreement PR00006791 with Messerli & Kramer for the provision of state lobbying services during the period January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025 in an amount not to exceed \$44,000; that following review and approval by the County Attorney's Office, the Chair be authorized to sign the contract on behalf of the authority; and that the Controller be authorized to disburse funds as directed.

Background:

Messerli & Kramer is currently under contract with the Hennepin County Regional Railroad Authority to lobby for the regional transit/transportation projects in Hennepin County at the Minnesota Legislature. In 2025, Messerli & Kramer will continue in this role.

Current Request: This request is for authorization to negotiate Agreement PR00006791 with Messerli & Kramer for state lobbying services during the period January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025 with the amount not to exceed \$44,000.

Impact/Outcomes: State funding for transit projects is needed to make these projects a reality. This action supports the county's disparity reduction efforts by supporting projects that will connect people to housing, jobs, education, medical facilities, and recreational activities. It also supports the county's climate action and vehicle miles traveled reduction goals.

Recommendation from County Administrator: Recommend Approval

HENNEPIN COUNTY

300 South Sixth Street
Minneapolis, MN
55487-0240

MINNESOTA

Board Action Request

24-HCRRRA-0023

Item Description:

Neg Agmt PR00006796 with Cardinal Infrastructure LLC for federal lobbying services, 01/01/25-12/31/25, NTE \$245,000; and Neg Agmt A2412661 with the Metropolitan Council for federal lobbying participation, 01/01/25-12/31/25, est recv \$122,500

Resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Executive Director be authorized to negotiate Agreement PR00006796 with Cardinal Infrastructure LLC for the provision of federal lobbying services during the period January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025, in an amount not to exceed \$245,000; that following review and approval by the County Attorney's Office, the Chair be authorized to sign the agreement on behalf of the authority; and that the Controller be authorized to disburse funds as directed; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Executive Director be authorized to negotiate Agreement A2412661 with the Metropolitan Council for its portion of the federal lobbying services provided by Cardinal Infrastructure LLC during the period January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025, with an estimated receivable amount of \$122,500; that following review and approval by the County Attorney's Office, the Chair be authorized to sign the agreement on behalf of the authority; and that the Controller be authorized to accept and disburse funds as directed.

Background:

Hennepin County and the Hennepin County Regional Rail Authority are local funders for transit projects in the county, including the METRO Green Line Extension (Southwest LRT) project and the Blue Line Extension (Bottineau LRT) project. Both projects are part of the Federal Transit Administration New Starts Capital Investment Grant program.

Federal funding for major transportation discretionary grant projects is extremely competitive. Cardinal Infrastructure LLC is an experienced, bipartisan lobbying firm, focused on transportation and community and economic development.

Current Request:

This request seeks authorization to negotiate Agreement PR00006796 with Cardinal Infrastructure LLC with a not to exceed amount of \$245,000 and to negotiate Agreement A2412661 with the Met Council with an estimated receivable amount of \$122,500 for federal lobbying services during the period January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025.

Disparity Reduction:

Funding for these projects will advance disparity reduction efforts by connecting people to housing, jobs, education, medical facilities and recreational activities. It also supports the county's climate action and vehicle miles traveled reduction goals.

Recommendation from County Administrator: Recommend Approval

Board Action Request

24-HCRRRA-0024

Item Description:

Delegation of authority to acquire tax-forfeited land through public auction

Resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Executive Director or their designee be delegated authority to acquire tax-forfeited land being sold through public auction by the Hennepin County Auditor; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this delegation includes, but is not limited to, the authority to bid on tax-forfeited land being sold through public auction, to make payment for winning bids and applicable transfer fees and related costs, to execute deeds and other agreements related to the conveyance of property, and any other acts that may be reasonably necessary to acquire tax-forfeited land through public action; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this delegation shall apply only to the acquisition of tax-forfeited land located in Hennepin County that has been identified for use by a program, project, or initiative for which the funding has been approved by the Hennepin County Regional Railroad Authority Board and where such funding will be sufficient for the acquisition; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this delegation is effective beginning January 1, 2025.

Background:

Recent state legislation has resulted in changes to the property tax forfeiture process in Minnesota. Under prior law, counties had several options for disposition of tax-forfeited property, including sale at auction, sale through a private broker, or conveyance to other public entities. As a result of the recent legislative changes, properties that become tax-forfeited in 2024 or in subsequent years must first be offered for sale at a public auction. As a result, public entities, including the Hennepin County Regional Railroad Authority ("HCRRA"), must participate in tax forfeiture auctions in order to acquire property being sold through the tax-forfeiture process if they want to secure these properties. Authority to administer public auctions of tax-forfeited land pursuant to the new state law was delegated to the County Auditor by Hennepin County Resolution 24-0359.

HCRRA has authority to acquire real estate (Minn. Stat. § 398A.04, subd. 1(2)). Under HCRRA's bylaws the Executive Director is "responsible for performing such powers and duties as [HCRRA] delegates." (Bylaws, Art. II, § 9.) Delegation of authority to acquire tax-forfeited land through public auction will allow HCRRA to acquire tax-forfeited land in compliance with the new state law. Delegation will allow HCRRA to continue to acquire tax-forfeited properties as appropriate to "provide for the preservation and improvement of local rail service for agriculture, industry, or passenger traffic" and other HCRRA purposes. Minn. Stat. § 398A.02. All property acquired and agreements executed under this proposed delegation of authority will be reported to the HCRRA Board on a quarterly basis.

Impact/Outcomes:

This request will allow HCRRA to acquire tax-forfeited land through public auction in compliance with recent changes to state legislation.

Recommendation from County Administrator: Recommend Approval

MINNESOTA

Board Action Request

24-HCRR-0025

Item Description:

Approve the acquisition of tax-forfeit property located on West Broadway in Minneapolis for the Blue Line LRT Extension

Resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Executive Director is authorized to acquire the tax-forfeit parcels of property identified as 1314, 1400, and 1404 West Broadway in Minneapolis from the State of Minnesota by direct purchase at a total cost of \$250,000; and that, after review and approval by the County Attorney, the Chair is authorized to execute all documents necessary to complete the acquisitions; and the Controller is authorized to transfer and disburse funds as necessary to carry out the intent of this Resolution.

Background:

The Blue Line Extension Light Rail Transit Project has identified four parcels of property that abut West Broadway (County State Aid Highway 81) in Minneapolis for acquisition. These parcels have all been forfeited due to the non-payment of real property taxes, and as a result the titles are currently held by the State of Minnesota in trust for the local taxing districts, pursuant to Minnesota law.

The parcels are identified as follows:

- Parcel 1: 1314 West Broadway. Property ID 16-029-24-13-0152. Market Value: \$83,333.34
- Parcel 2: 1400 West Broadway. Property ID 16-029-24-13-0078. Market Value: \$83,333.34
- Parcel 3: 1404 West Broadway. Property ID 16-029-24-24-0211. Market Value: \$83,333.34
- Parcel 4: 1408 West Broadway. Property ID 16-029-24-24-0074. To be sold at auction.

Based on their respective dates of forfeiture, State law allows the Hennepin County Regional Railroad Authority to acquire parcel numbers 1-3 by direct purchase from the State for market value. Parcel number 4 must be sold at an auction because its disposition is subject to new legislation resulting from the Tyler v. Hennepin County, et al., No. 22-166 U.S. Supreme Court decision.

Current Request:

This resolution thus authorizes the Executive Director to acquire parcels 1-3 by direct purchase and for the Chair to execute any necessary documents.

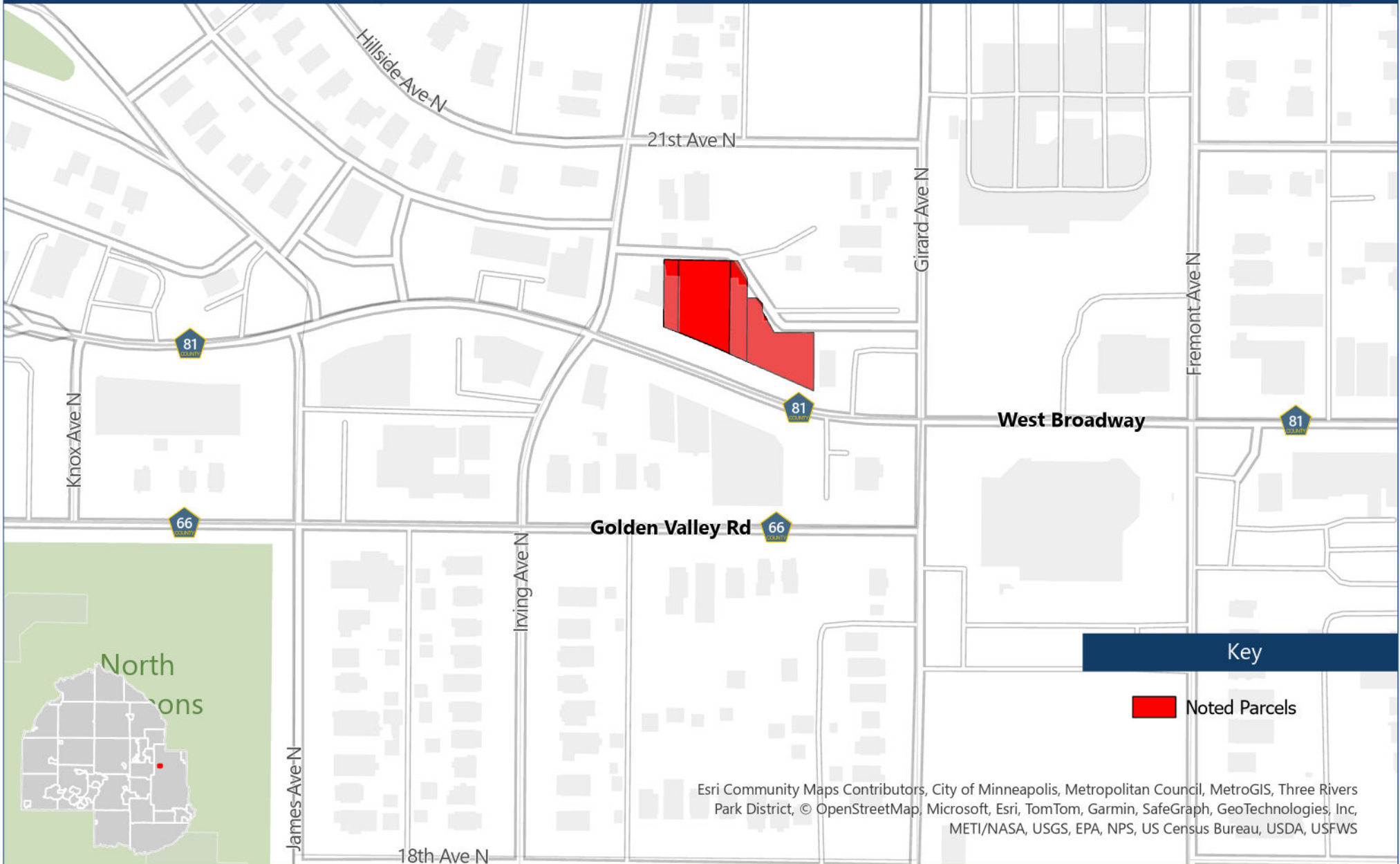
Impact/Outcomes:

This action supports the county's disparity reduction efforts by investing in transportation infrastructure that reduces climate impacts and gives people transportation choices and access to housing, jobs, schools, medical facilities, and other destinations of choice.

Recommendation from County Administrator: Recommend Approval

West Broadway TFL Parcels

Hennepin County | Transit and Mobility



Disclaimer: This map (i) is furnished "AS IS" with no representation as to completeness or accuracy; (ii) is furnished with no warranty of any kind; and (iii) is not suitable for legal, engineering or surveying purposes. Hennepin County shall not be liable for any damage, injury or loss resulting from this map. Publication date: 11/6/2024. Data sources:

