

7550 Sunwood Drive NW • Ramsey, Minnesota 55303
City Hall: 763-427-1410 • Fax: 763-427-5543
www.ci.ramsey.mn.us

July 22, 2009

Mr. Kevin Roggenbuck
TAB Coordinator
390 North Robert Street
St. Paul, MN 55101

Dear Mr. Roggenbuck,

Thank you for giving the City of Ramsey the opportunity to respond to the letter dated July 16, 2009 as amended on July 20, 2009. Please accept this letter as clarification for the grant application that was submitted in response to the 2009 regional solicitation for Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality.

#4: Provision of the local match.

Response: Two letters were attached to the grant application. The first was the cover letter from Kurt Ulrich (dated June 12, 2009) which states that the City of Ramsey agrees to provide the local match. The second is another letter from Kurt Ulrich (dated June 12, 2009) again stating the City of Ramsey agrees to provide the local match. Copies of these letters are attached.

#5 Agency with jurisdiction will operate and maintain.

Response: Metro Transit will be operating the Northstar Commuter Rail Services and will be maintaining all associated facilities. Copy of the letter from Mr. Brian Lamb is attached.

#11 Identify Transit Provider.

Response: It is the intent of the City of Ramsey to join the Transit Taxing District if the TAB awards CMAQ funds to this project in the 2009 regional solicitation. The City of Ramsey agrees that this commitment will be in place by March of 2010 when the TAB adopts the draft 2010-2013 TIP subject to successful negotiations between the City and the Metropolitan Council regarding the terms of the Transit Taxing District.

#12 Have capital or operating costs been previously provided through CMAQ?

Question 1: is rail platform infrastructure for commuter rail service part of this application?

Response: Yes, the cost of the project and CMAQ application included the rail platform infrastructure (platform, electrical, mechanical, communications and BNSF railway flaggers) for the commuter rail service.

Question 2: Clarify if 2005 CMAQ funded components are part of the 2009 CMAQ application.

Response: No, the funding requested for 2009 CMAQ is not for improvements funded through the 2005 CMAQ grant.

The 2005 CMAQ grant funded stairway, elevators, and transit station canopy in a different location on the site. These improvements will be constructed as part of the park and ride facility expansion and are not the same improvements that are part of the Northstar Commuter Rail station in Ramsey.

The 2005 CMAQ grant also funded the operation of new express bus service. This allowed 150 existing parking stalls to be dedicated as park and ride stalls, now that there is transit service. No federal funds were used for these 150 stalls.

The 2009 CMAQ grant is requesting funds to construct shelters, stair and elevators, and rail platform associated with the Northstar Commuter Rail Service.

Question 3: what happens to the CMAQ funded capital items and express bus service if this project is selected?

Response: The capital component of the 2005 CMAQ grant included the 200 stall park and ride facility and the capital leasing of the buses used in the express commuter bus service. This capital component will fund the operation of the bus until January 2010. The lease can be terminated upon initiation of the rail service in the City of Ramsey.

I hope this addresses the concerns that were expressed regarding the 2009 regional solicitation and look forward to seeing on Thursday. If you have any additional concerns or need for clarification, please feel free to contact me at kulrich@ci.ramsey.mn.us.

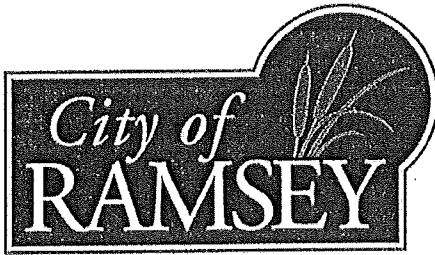
Sincerely,



Kurtis G. Ulrich
City Administrator

Cc:

Natalie Steffen, Metropolitan Council Member, District 9
Brian Olson, Director of Public Works/ Principal City Engineer



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June 12, 2009

Mr. Kevin Roggenbuck, Transportation Coordinator
Transportation Advisory Board
Metropolitan Council
390 Robert Street
St. Paul, MN 55101

Subject: Local Match for Ramsey Northstar Commuter Rail Station

Dear Mr. Roggenbuck:

The City of Ramsey respectfully submits the enclosed CMAQ Funding Application for your review and consideration.

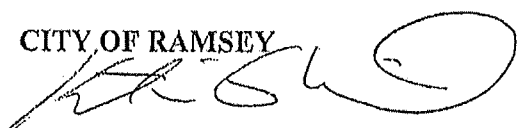
Ramsey has support from Anoka County, Metropolitan Council, and Mn/DOT. We have also developed a strong public-private partnership with existing business owners in the Ramsey Town Center who have committed to sharing in local costs for the project. This letter will serve as assurance that the City of Ramsey agrees to provide the local match (non federal funds) of 20% to the requested federal funds. We understand that this assurance is required as part of our submittal of the Federal CMAQ funding application for Transit Expansion.

Input from the public has helped us shape our multimodal connections to the rail station via regional trails, pedestrian-ways and bridges, local bus service, and improved highway access in the form of an interchange at TH10 and Armstrong Boulevard. Ramsey's history of involving local residents, neighboring communities, and business owners in our decision-making processes will continue as we diligently work toward realizing our goals.

Your consideration to assist the City of Ramsey and its partners fund the Ramsey commuter rail station is requested at this time, and we look forward to working with you to provide any additional information you may need as you determine your funding priorities. If you need any additional information, please contact me at 763.433.9845.

Sincerely,

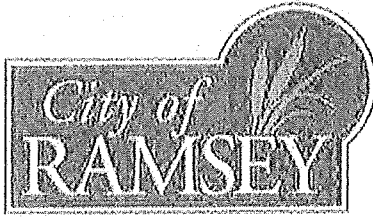
CITY OF RAMSEY



Kurtis G. Ulrich
City Administrator

Attachment 1

Letter Dated June 12, 2009 from the City of Ramsey.



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June 12, 2009

Mr. Kevin Roggenbuck, Transportation Coordinator
Transportation Advisory Board
Metropolitan Council
390 Robert Street
St. Paul, MN 55101

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Sincerely,

CITY OF RAMSEY



Kurtis G. Ulrich
City Administrator



July 22, 2009

Mr. Kurt Ulrich
City Administrator
City of Ramsey
7550 Sunwood Drive NW
Ramsey, MN 55303

RE: 2009 Solicitation Quality Review
Ramsey CMAQ Project CMT-09-02; Ramsey Northstar Rail Station

Dear Mr. Ulrich:

This letter is provided in response to your request for clarification on Criteria #5, as it relates to the above application.

To confirm, Metro Transit will operate and maintain the property and facility for the life of the improvement. This is based on the condition that the City of Ramsey must consider and approve becoming a member of the Metropolitan Council Transit Taxing District. Metro Transit will not change the use of right-of-way without prior approval from the Minnesota Department of Transportation and Federal Highway Administration.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at 612-349-7510.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brian J. Lamb'.

Brian J. Lamb
General Manager

c: Brian Olson, Director of Public Works, Ramsey
Natalie Haas Steffen
Tom Weaver
Arlene McCarthy
Mark Fuhrmann
Kevin Roggenbuck

A service of the Metropolitan Council