

**STATE OF MINNESOTA
GRANT AGREEMENT**

This agreement is between the State of Minnesota, acting through its Commissioner of Transportation ("State"), and Ramsey County Railroad Regional Authority ("Grantee").

RECITALS

1. Under the provisions contained in the Minnesota Laws of 2024, Chapter 127, Article 1, Section 2, Subdivision 2 (b), the State of Minnesota has allocated \$1,000,000.00 from the general fund for a grant to the Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority for a portion of the costs of insurance coverage related to rail-related incidents occurring at Union Depot in the city of St. Paul.
2. The purpose of this Grant Agreement is to administer state financial assistance to the Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority for insurance coverage of rail-related incidents at Union Depot in the City of St. Paul.
3. Grantee represents that it is duly qualified and agrees to perform all services described in this agreement to the satisfaction of the State. Pursuant to [Minn.Stat.§16B.98](#), Subd.1, Grantee agrees to minimize administrative costs as a condition of this agreement.

AGREEMENT TERMS

- 1 **Term of Agreement, Survival of Terms, and Incorporation of Exhibits**
 - 1.1 **Effective Date.** This agreement will be effective on the date the State obtains all required signatures under [Minn. Stat.§16B.98](#), Subd. 5. As required by [Minn.Stat.§16B.98](#) Subd. 7, no payments will be made to Grantee until this agreement is fully executed. Grantee must not begin work under this agreement until this agreement is fully executed and Grantee has been notified by the State's Authorized Representative to begin the work.
 - 1.2 **Expiration Date.** This agreement will expire on **June 30, 2025**, or when all obligations have been satisfactorily fulfilled, whichever occurs first.
 - 1.3 **Survival of Terms.** All clauses which impose obligations continuing in their nature and which must survive in order to give effect to their meaning will survive the expiration or termination of this agreement, including, without limitation, the following clauses: 8. Liability; 9. State Audits; 10. Government Data Practices and Intellectual Property; 11. Workers Compensation; 12. Publicity and Endorsement; 13. Governing Law, Jurisdiction, and Venue; and 15 Data Disclosure.
 - 1.4 **Exhibits.** Exhibit A attached and incorporated into this agreement.
- 2 **Grantee's Duties**
 - 2.1 Grantee, who is not a state employee, will: use funds to purchase additional insurance coverage starting September 1, 2024 for Fiscal Year 2025 of \$125 million, for a total of \$175 million, related to rail-related incidents occurring at Union Depot in the city of St. Paul. Grantee will provide Certificate of Insurance or copy of insurance policy upon completion.
 - 2.2 Grantee will comply with all required grants management policies and procedures set forth through [Minn.Stat.§16B.97](#), Subd. 4 (a) (1).
 - 2.3 Grantee will submit one (1) progress report with invoice and a Certificate of Insurance by June 30, 2025. Payments will not be made under section 4.2 if a progress report is past due unless Grantee has been given a written extension by the State.
 - 2.4 **Asset Monitoring.** If Grantee uses funds obtained by this agreement to acquire a capital asset, the Grantee is required to use that asset for a public purpose for the normal useful life of the asset. Any capital assets acquired with grant funds under this agreement are subject to the follow reporting requirements: N/A. Grantee may not sell or change the purpose of use for the capital asset(s) obtained with grant funds under this agreement without the prior written consent of the State and an agreement executed and approved by the same parties who executed and approved this agreement, or their successors in office.
- 3 **Time**
 - 3.1 Grantee must comply with all the time requirements described in this agreement. In the performance of this

grant agreement, time is of the essence.

4 Consideration and Payment

4.1 **Consideration.** The State will pay for all services performed by Grantee under this agreement as follows:

- 4.1.1 **Compensation.** Grantee will be paid from a one-time appropriation of \$1,000,000 to cover a portion of insurance coverage related to rail-related incidents at Union Depot in St. Paul, Minnesota.
- 4.1.2 **Travel Expenses.** Reimbursement for travel and subsistence expenses actually and necessarily incurred by Grantee as a result of this agreement will not exceed \$0 provided that Grantee will be reimbursed for travel and subsistence expenses in the same manner and in no greater amount than provided in the current "Commissioner's Plan" promulgated by the Commissioner of Minnesota Management and Budget (MMB). Grantee will not be reimbursed for travel and subsistence expenses incurred outside Minnesota unless it has received the State's prior written approval for out of state travel. Minnesota will be considered the home state for determining whether travel is out of state.
- 4.1.3 **Total Obligation.** The total obligation of the State for all compensation and reimbursements to Grantee under this agreement will not exceed \$1,000,000.

4.2 Payment

- 4.2.1 **Invoices.** Grantee will submit invoices for payment by email. Exhibit A, which is attached and incorporated into this agreement, is the form Grantee will use to submit invoices. The State's Authorized Representative, as named in this agreement, will review each invoice against the approved grant budget, grant expenditures to-date, and the latest written progress report before approving payment. The State will promptly pay Grantee after Grantee presents an itemized invoice for the services actually performed and the State's Authorized Representative accepts the invoiced services. Invoices will be submitted timely and according to the following schedule:
- 4.2.2 **All Invoices Subject to Audit.** All invoices are subject to audit, at State's discretion. Audits will be conducted using the cost principles and procedures set forth in 2 Code of Federal Regulations – (CFR) part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards.
- 4.2.3 **State's Payment Requirements.** State will promptly pay all valid obligations under this agreement as required by Minnesota Statutes §16A.124. State will make undisputed payments no later than 30 days after receiving Grantee's invoices and progress reports for services performed. If an invoice is incorrect, defective or otherwise improper, State will notify Grantee within ten days of discovering the error. After State receives the corrected invoice, State will pay Grantee within 30 days of receipt of such invoice.
- 4.2.4 **Grant Monitoring Visit and Financial Reconciliation.** During the period of performance, the State will make at least annual monitoring visits and conduct annual financial reconciliations of Grantee's expenditures.
 - 4.2.4.1 The State's Authorized Representative will notify Grantee's Authorized Representative where and when any monitoring visit and financial reconciliation will take place, which State employees and/or contractors will participate, and which Grantee staff members should be present. Grantee will be provided with at least seven calendar days of notice prior to any monitoring visit or financial reconciliation.
 - 4.2.4.2 Following a monitoring visit or financial reconciliation, Grantee will take timely and appropriate action on all deficiencies identified by State.
 - 4.2.4.3 At least one monitoring visit and one financial reconciliation must be completed prior to contract termination date.
- 4.2.5 **Unexpended Funds.** The Grantee must promptly return to the State at grant closeout any unexpended funds that have not been accounted for in a financial report submitted to the State.
- 4.2.6 **Closeout.** The State will determine, at its sole discretion, whether a closeout audit is required prior to final payment approval. If a closeout audit is required, final payment will be held until the audit has been completed. Monitoring of any capital assets acquired with grant funds will continue following grant closeout.

5 Conditions of Payment

All services provided by Grantee under this agreement must be performed to the State's satisfaction, as determined at the sole discretion of the State's Authorized Representative and in accordance with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, ordinances, rules, and regulations. The Grantee will not receive payment for work found by the State to be unsatisfactory or performed in violation of federal, state, or local law.

6 Authorized Representatives

6.1 The State's Authorized Representative is:

Madeline Ramirez, Grant Coordinator, 395 John Ireland Blvd, St. Paul, MN, 55155, 651-341-3550, Madeline.Ramirez@state.mn.us, or their successor. State's Authorized Representative has the responsibility to monitor Grantee's performance and the authority to accept the services provided under this agreement. If the services are satisfactory, the State's Authorized Representative will certify acceptance on each invoice submitted for payment.

6.2 Grantee's Authorized Representative is:

Rafael E. Ortega, Commissioner, 15 West Kellogg Blvd, St. Paul, MN, 55102, 651-266-8361, Rafael.E.Ortega@co.ramsey.mn.us, or their successor. If Grantee's Authorized Representative changes at any time during this agreement, Grantee will immediately notify the State.

7 Assignment Amendments, Waiver, and Grant Agreement Complete

7.1 **Assignment.** The Grantee may neither assign nor transfer any rights or obligations under this agreement without the prior written consent of the State and a fully executed Assignment Agreement, executed and approved by the same parties who executed and approved this agreement, or their successors in office.

7.2 **Amendments.** Any amendments to this agreement must be in writing and will not be effective until it has been executed and approved by the same parties who executed and approved the original agreement, or their successors in office.

7.3 **Waiver.** If the State fails to enforce any provision of this agreement, that failure does not waive the provision or the State's right to subsequently enforce it.

7.4 **Grant Agreement Complete.** This grant agreement contains all negotiations and agreements between the State and Grantee. No other understanding regarding this agreement, whether written or oral, may be used to bind either party.

7.5 **Electronic Records and Signatures.** The parties agree to contract by electronic means. This includes using electronic signatures and converting original documents to electronic records.

7.6 **Certification.** By signing this Agreement, the Grantee certifies that it is not suspended or debarred from receiving federal or state awards.

8 Liability

In the performance of this agreement, and to the extent permitted by law, Grantee must indemnify, save, and hold the State, its agents, and employees harmless from any claims or causes of action, including attorney's fees incurred by the State, arising from the performance of this agreement by Grantee or Grantee's agents or employees. This clause will not be construed to bar any legal remedies Grantee may have for the State's failure to fulfill its obligations under this agreement.

9 State Audits

Under Minn. Stat. § 16B.98, Subd.8, the Grantee's books, records, documents, and accounting procedures and practices of Grantee, or other party relevant to this grant agreement or transaction, are subject to examination by the State and/or the State Auditor or Legislative Auditor, as appropriate, for a minimum of six years from the end of this agreement, receipt and approval of all final reports, or the required period of time to satisfy all state and program retention requirements, whichever is later. Grantee will take timely and appropriate action on all deficiencies identified by an audit.

10 Government Data Practices and Intellectual Property Rights

10.1 **Government Data Practices.** Grantee and State must comply with the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act, [Minn. Stat. Ch. 13](#), as it applies to all data provided by the State under this grant agreement, and as it applies to all data created, collected, received, stored, used, maintained, or disseminated by the Grantee

under this agreement. The civil remedies of [Minn. Stat. §13.08](#) apply to the release of the data referred to in this clause by either Grantee or the State.

10.2 Intellectual Property Rights.

10.2.1 **Intellectual Property Rights.** State owns all rights, title and interest in all of the intellectual property rights, including copyrights, patents, trade secrets, trademarks and service marks in the Works and Documents created and paid for under this agreement. “Works” means all inventions, improvements, discoveries (whether or not patentable), databases, computer programs, reports, notes, studies, photographs, negatives, designs, drawings, specifications, materials, tapes and disks conceived, reduced to practice, created or originated by Grantee, its employees, agents and subcontractors, either individually or jointly with others in the performance of this agreement. Works includes Documents. “Documents” are the originals of any databases, computer programs, reports, notes, studies, photographs, negatives, designs, drawings, specifications, materials, tapes, disks or other materials, whether in tangible or electronic forms, prepared by Grantee, its employees, agents or subcontractors, in the performance of this agreement. The Documents will be the exclusive property of State, and Grantee upon completion or cancellation of this agreement must immediately return all such Documents to State. To the extent possible, those Works eligible for copyright protection under the United States Copyright Act will be deemed to be “works made for hire.” Grantee assigns all right, title and interest it may have in the Works and the Documents to State. Grantee must, at the request of State, execute all papers and perform all other acts necessary to transfer or record the State’s ownership interest in the Works and Documents.

10.2.2 Obligations

10.2.2.1 **Notification.** Whenever any invention, improvement or discovery (whether or not patentable) is made or conceived for the first time or actually or constructively reduced to practice by Grantee, including its employees and subcontractors, in the performance of this agreement, Grantee will immediately give State’s Authorized Representative written notice thereof and must promptly furnish State’s Authorized Representative with complete information and/or disclosure thereon.

10.2.2.2 **Representation.** Grantee must perform all acts, and take all steps necessary to ensure that all intellectual property rights in the Works and Documents are the sole property of State and that neither Grantee nor its employees, agents or subcontractors retain any interest in and to the Works and Documents. Grantee represents and warrants that the Works and Documents do not and will not infringe upon any intellectual property rights of other persons or entities. Notwithstanding Clause 8, Grantee will indemnify; defend, to the extent permitted by the Attorney General; and hold harmless State, at Grantee’s expense, from any action or claim brought against State to the extent that it is based on a claim that all or part of the Works or Documents infringe upon the intellectual property rights of others. Grantee will be responsible for payment of any and all such claims, demands, obligations, liabilities, costs and damages, including but not limited to, attorney fees. If such a claim or action arises, or in Grantee’s or State’s opinion is likely to arise, Grantee must, at State’s discretion, either procure for State the right or license to use the intellectual property rights at issue or replace or modify the allegedly infringing Works or Documents as necessary and appropriate to obviate the infringement claim. This remedy of State will be in addition to and not exclusive of other remedies provided by law.

11 Workers Compensation

The Grantee certifies that it is in compliance with [Minn. Stat. §176.181](#), Subd. 2, pertaining to workers’ compensation insurance coverage. The Grantee’s employees and agents will not be considered State employees. Any claims that may arise under the Minnesota Workers’ Compensation Act on behalf of these employees and any claims made by any third party as a consequence of any act or omission on the part of these employees are in no way the State’s obligation or responsibility.

12 Publicity and Endorsement

12.1 **Publicity.** Any publicity regarding the subject matter of this agreement must identify the State as the sponsoring agency and must not be released without prior written approval from the State’s Authorized

Representative. For purposes of this provision, publicity includes notices, informational pamphlets, press releases, research, reports, signs, and similar public notices prepared by or for the Grantee individually or jointly with others, or any subcontractors, with respect to the program, publications, or services provided resulting from this grant agreement. All projects primarily funded by state grant appropriation must publicly credit the State of Minnesota, including on the Grantee's website when practicable.

12.2 Endorsement. The Grantee must not claim that the State endorses its products or services.

13 Governing Law, Jurisdiction, and Venue

Minnesota law, without regard to its choice-of-law provisions, governs this agreement. Venue for all legal proceedings out of this agreement, or its breach, must be in the appropriate state or federal court with competent jurisdiction in Ramsey County, Minnesota.

14 Termination; Suspension

14.1 Termination by the State or Commissioner of Administration. The State or Commissioner of Administration may unilaterally terminate this agreement at any time, with or without cause, upon written notice to the Grantee. Upon termination, the Grantee will be entitled to payment, determined on a pro rata basis, for services satisfactorily performed.

14.2 Termination for Cause. The State may immediately terminate this grant agreement if the State finds that there has been a failure to comply with the provisions of this agreement, that reasonable progress has not been made, that fraudulent or wasteful activity has occurred, that Grantee has been convicted of a criminal offense relating to a state grant agreement, or that the purposes for which the funds were granted have not been or will not be fulfilled. The State may take action to protect the interests of the State of Minnesota, including the refusal to disburse additional funds and requiring the return of all or part of the funds already disbursed.

14.3 Termination for Insufficient Funding. The State may immediately terminate this agreement if:

14.3.1 It does not obtain funding from the Minnesota Legislature; or

14.3.2 If funding cannot be continued at a level sufficient to allow for the payment of the services covered here. Termination must be by written or fax notice to the Grantee. The State is not obligated to pay for any services that are provided after notice and effective date of termination. However, the Grantee will be entitled to payment, determined on a pro rata basis, for services satisfactorily performed to the extent that funds are available. The State will not be assessed any penalty if the agreement is terminated because of the decision of the Minnesota Legislature, or other funding source, not to appropriate funds. The State will provide the Grantee notice of the lack of funding within a reasonable time of the State's receiving that notice.

14.4 Suspension. The State may immediately suspend this agreement in the event of a total or partial government shutdown due to the failure to have an approved budget by the legal deadline. Work performed by the Grantee during a period of suspension will be deemed unauthorized and undertaken at risk of non-payment.

15 Data Disclosure

Under [Minn. Stat. § 270C.65](#), Subd. 3, and other applicable law, Grantee consents to disclosure of its social security number, federal employer tax identification number, and/or Minnesota tax identification number, already provided to the State, to federal and state tax agencies and state personnel involved in the payment of state obligations. These identification numbers may be used in the enforcement of federal and state tax laws which could result in action requiring the Grantee to file state tax returns and pay delinquent state tax liabilities, if any.

16 Fund Use Prohibited. The Grantee will not utilize any funds received pursuant to this Agreement to compensate, either directly or indirectly, any contractor, corporation, partnership, or business, however organized, which is disqualified or debarred from entering into or receiving a State contract. This restriction applies regardless of whether the disqualified or debarred party acts in the capacity of a general contractor, a subcontractor, or as an equipment or material supplier. This restriction does not prevent the Grantee from utilizing these funds to pay any party who might be disqualified or debarred after the Grantee's contract award on this Project.

17 Discrimination Prohibited by Minnesota Statutes §181.59. Grantee will comply with the provisions of Minnesota

Statutes §181.59 which requires that every contract for or on behalf of the State of Minnesota, or any county, city, town, township, school, school district or any other district in the state, for materials, supplies or construction will contain provisions by which Contractor agrees: 1) That, in the hiring of common or skilled labor for the performance of any work under any contract, or any subcontract, no Contractor, material supplier or vendor, will, by reason of race, creed or color, discriminate against the person or persons who are citizens of the United States or resident aliens who are qualified and available to perform the work to which the employment relates; 2) That no Contractor, material supplier, or vendor, will, in any manner, discriminate against, or intimidate, or prevent the employment of any person or persons identified in clause 1 of this section, or on being hired, prevent or conspire to prevent, the person or persons from the performance of work under any contract on account of race, creed or color; 3) That a violation of this section is a misdemeanor; and 4) That this contract may be canceled or terminated by the state of Minnesota, or any county, city, town, township, school, school district or any other person authorized to grant contracts for employment, and all money due, or to become due under the contract, may be forfeited for a second or any subsequent violation of the terms or conditions of this Agreement.

- 18 **Limitation.** Under this Agreement, the State is only responsible for receiving and disbursing funds. Nothing in this Agreement will be construed to make the State a principal, co-principal, partner, or joint venturer with respect to the Project(s) covered herein. The State may provide technical advice and assistance as requested by the Grantee, however, the Grantee will remain responsible for providing direction to its contractors and consultants and for administering its contracts with such entities. The Grantee’s consultants and contractors are not intended to be third party beneficiaries of this Agreement.
- 19 **Telecommunications Certification.** By signing this agreement Grantee certifies that, consistent with Section 889 of the John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2019, Pub. L. 115-232 (Aug. 13, 2018), Grantee does not and will not use any equipment, system, or service that uses “covered telecommunications equipment or services” (as that term is defined in Section 889 of the Act) as a substantial or essential component of any system or as critical technology as part of any system. Grantee will include this certification as a flow down clause in any contract related to this agreement.
- 20 **Title VI/Non-discrimination Assurances.** Grantee agrees to comply with all applicable US DOT Standard Title VI/Non-Discrimination Assurances contained in DOT Order No. 1050.2A, and in particular Appendices A and E, which can be found at: https://edocs-public.dot.state.mn.us/edocs_public/DMResultSet/download?docId=11149035. Grantee will ensure the appendices and solicitation language within the assurances are inserted into contracts as required. State may conduct a review of the Grantee’s compliance with this provision. The Grantee must cooperate with State throughout the review process by supplying all requested information and documentation to State, making Grantee staff and officials available for meetings as requested, and correcting any areas of non-compliance as determined by State.
- 21 **Additional Provisions**
- 21.1. **Certificate of Insurance**
- For the term of this Grant Agreement RECIPIENT will obtain the insurance required under Article 13 of this Grant Agreement. RECIPIENT will provide STATE with evidence that a new policy of \$175 million has been obtained. RECIPIENT will notify STATE immediately upon a change in the term or conditions of an insurance policy.
- 21.2. **Duration of Insurance**
- RECIPIENT will maintain insurance coverage for the term for which these funds are paying. In the event that the RECIPIENT cancels their rail insurance coverage, RECIPIENT must notify the STATE and provide appropriate refund.
- 21.3. **Types of Insurance Required**
- RECIPIENT is required to maintain insurance protecting them from claims for damages for bodily injury, including sickness or disease, death and for care and loss of services as well as from claims for property damage, including loss, of use which may arise from rail-related incidents at Union Depot in the City of St. Paul

(214 4th Street East, St. Paul, MN, 55101) under this Grant Agreement whether the operations are by RECIPIENT or by a subcontractor or by anyone directly or indirectly.

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STATE ENCUMBRANCE VERIFICATION

Individual certifies that funds have been encumbered as required by Minn. Stat. § 16A.15 and § 16C.05.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

SWIFT Contract/PO No(s): _____

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

By: _____
(with delegated authority)

Title: _____

Date: _____

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
CONTRACT MANAGEMENT**

By: _____

Date: _____

GRANTEE

The Grantee certifies that the appropriate person(s) have executed the grant agreement on behalf of the Grantee as required by applicable articles, bylaws, resolutions, or ordinances. RAMSEY COUNTY REGIONAL RAILROAD AUTHORITY BOARD CHAIR, RAFAEL E. ORTEGA

By: _____

Title: Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority Board Chair

Date: _____

APPROVED AS TO FORM - SCOTT SCHWAHN, ASSISTANT RAMSEY COUNTY ATTORNEY

Larry Scott Schwahn
By: Larry Scott Schwahn (Nov 4, 2024 11:59 CST)

Title: Assistant Ramsey County Attorney

Date: 11/04/2024

Exhibit A to Grant Agreement
**INVOICE AND PROGRESS
REPORT**
INVOICE NO. _____
Final Invoice? Yes No

Invoice Instructions:

Grantee must:

1. Complete the invoice and, if applicable, the progress report, in their entirety
2. Sign the invoice and progress report
3. Attach supporting documentation
4. Scan the entire invoice package*, **in the following order:**
 - a. Completed, Signed Invoice Form
 - b. Completed, Signed Progress Report Form (if applicable)
 - c. Supporting Documentation

Note: Whenever possible, convert landscape pages to portrait pages and optimize the document to decrease the size.
5. E-mail the invoice package, in .pdf, to madeline.ramirez@state.mn.us

MnDOT Contract Number:

Billing Period: From _____ to _____

Grant Expiration Date: June 30, 2025

Invoice Date: _____

	Total Amount	Total Billing to Date	Amount Previously Billed	Billed This Invoice
Additional Rail Insurance	\$1,000,000			
Total Amount due this invoice:				\$

I certify that the statements contained on this invoice, and its supporting documents, are true and accurate and that I have not knowingly made a false or fraudulent claim or used a false or fraudulent record in connection with this Invoice. I understand that this invoice is subject to audit.

Grantee: _____

Signature: _____

Print Name: _____

Title: _____

Union Depot Rail Insurance Grant Progress Report Form

The purpose of this form is to document progress made on a grant project/award. Grant Progress Reports provide a summary of the grant activities and progress on the goals and outcomes of the project. Progress reports must be submitted at the same time as the submission of the invoices (monthly) for approval by the Program/Project Manager.

Organization Name	
Contract Number	
Date of Report Submission	
Report/Billing Period	
Report Submitted By	

Areas of Progress

Program Operation	Y	N	Comments
Is the project progressing on schedule?			
Is the project functioning as described in the scope of work?			
Has there been a change in project scope?			

Professional/Contractual Services	Y	N	Recommendation/Comments
Are contractors making regular and accurate billing?			

Budget/Finance	Y	N	Comments
Is the project on track with budget estimates?			
Will budget revisions be needed?			

Please describe activities performed during this report period.

Please describe any challenges or lessons learned during this report period and how they were resolved.

Please describe the activities planned for the next stage of the project.

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Additional Notes

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