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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-THIRD SESSION

H. F. No. 4683

03/07/2024 Authored by Agbaje, Frazier, Hornstein, Freiberg, Nelson, M., and others
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Transportation Finance and Policy

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to transportation; establishing Blue Line light rail transit extension
1.3 antidisplacement community prosperity program; requiring a report; appropriating
1.4 money; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 473.

1.5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.6 Section 1. [473.4058] BLUE LINE LIGHT RAIL TRANSIT EXTENSION
1.7 ANTIDISPLACEMENT COMMUNITY PROSPERITY PROGRAM.

1.8 Subdivision 1. Definitions. (a) For purposes of this section, the following terms have
1.9 the meanings given.

1.10 (b) "Antidisplacement community prosperity program" or "program" means the program
1.11 established under subdivision 2.

1.12 (c) "Antidisplacement community prosperity program money" or "program money"
1.13 means the money allocated to the program from the state.

1.14 (d) "Blue Line light rail transit extension corridor" or "corridor" means the neighborhoods
1.15 and communities within one mile of the route selected for the Blue Line light rail transit
1.16 extension project.

1.17 Subd. 2. Establishment. The antidisplacement community prosperity program is
1.18 established to preserve and enhance affordable housing, small business support, job training
1.19 and placement, economic vitality, and the sense of community to benefit the people in the
1.20 communities along the Blue Line light rail transit extension corridor.

1.21 Subd. 3. Purposes; qualifying expenditures. (a) Program money must only be expended
1.22 for the purposes listed under this subdivision.

2.1 (b) Affordable housing. Program money may be used to provide opportunities for  
2.2 existing residents to stay in place and feel supported and to support development,  
2.3 preservation, and access to safe and affordable housing and housing choice.

2.4 (c) Small business support. Program money may be used to incentivize community  
2.5 institutions, business organizations, and community members to own property along the  
2.6 corridor and connect to other commercial nodes. Program money may also be used to  
2.7 improve the climate for businesses before, during, and after construction; prioritize  
2.8 development of spaces for small businesses; and provide opportunities for existing businesses  
2.9 to stay in place and feel supported.

2.10 (d) Community ownership and commercial development. Program money may be  
2.11 used to incentivize community institutions, business organizations, and community members  
2.12 to own property along the corridor and connect to other commercial nodes in order to keep  
2.13 the rich culture of the corridor in place and thriving. Program money may also be used to  
2.14 create opportunities for, and to measure levels of, community ownership along the corridor.

2.15 (e) Public realm enhancement. Program money may be used to improve infrastructure  
2.16 around the project, provide opportunities for the community to connect to the project and  
2.17 development in a joyful way, and keep the rich culture of the corridor in place and thriving.

2.18 (f) Job training and placement. Program money may be used to provide opportunities  
2.19 and investments to increase participation of corridor residents in the Blue Line light rail  
2.20 transit extension project and program initiatives.

2.21 Subd. 4. Program governance; distribution and restrictions. (a) The program is  
2.22 governed by a board consisting of the following members:

2.23 (1) two Hennepin County commissioners or appointed officials representing Hennepin  
2.24 County;

2.25 (2) two elected or appointed officials representing the city of Minneapolis;

2.26 (3) one elected or appointed official representing the city of Robbinsdale;

2.27 (4) one elected or appointed official representing the city of Crystal;

2.28 (5) one elected or appointed official representing the city of Brooklyn Park;

2.29 (6) two representatives appointed by the Blue Line Coalition;

2.30 (7) one representative appointed by the Blue Line Extension Community Advisory  
2.31 Committee;

3.1 (8) one representative appointed by the Blue Line Extension Business Advisory  
 3.2 Committee;

3.3 (9) two representatives who live in the corridor and represent either the community or  
 3.4 a philanthropic organization, appointed by the senate majority leader; and

3.5 (10) two representatives who live in the corridor and represent either the community or  
 3.6 a philanthropic organization, appointed by the speaker of the house.

3.7 (b) The board must appoint a chair from among its members.

3.8 (c) The board must review and approve each expenditure funded in whole or in part with  
 3.9 program money to ensure compliance with the requirements of this section.

3.10 (d) The board must not approve an expenditure of program money for any purpose unless  
 3.11 that purpose also receives at least an equal amount of funding from nonstate sources,  
 3.12 including but not limited to federal, local, Metropolitan Council, or philanthropic funding.

3.13 Subd. 5. Report. By January 15 each year, the board must submit a report to the chairs  
 3.14 and ranking minority members of the legislative committees with jurisdiction over  
 3.15 transportation policy and finance. At a minimum, the report must include a summary of  
 3.16 activities under the program, a fiscal review of expenditures, and analysis of impacts and  
 3.17 outcomes.

3.18 Subd. 6. Expiration. The antidisplacement community prosperity program expires June  
 3.19 30, 2030.

3.20 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

3.21 Sec. 2. **APPROPRIATION; BLUE LINE LIGHT RAIL TRANSIT EXTENSION**  
 3.22 **ANTIDISPLACEMENT COMMUNITY PROSPERITY PROGRAM.**

3.23 \$10,000,000 in fiscal year 2024 and \$10,000,000 in fiscal year 2025 are appropriated  
 3.24 from the general fund to the commissioner of transportation for a grant to Hennepin County  
 3.25 to administer the Blue Line light rail transit extension antidisplacement community prosperity  
 3.26 program under Minnesota Statutes, section 473.4058. The appropriation for fiscal year 2024  
 3.27 is available until June 30, 2025. The base for fiscal year 2026 and each year thereafter is  
 3.28 \$10,000,000.

3.29 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.