

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Authors: Hortman and others

Subject: I-394 rail transit feasibility study

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Overview

This bill appropriates \$500,000 to the Met Council to conduct a study on the feasibility of establishing light rail transit or commuter rail along the I-394 corridor and possibly in conjunction with the proposed southwest transitway. It outlines study requirements and directs that it be submitted to the Legislature by December 15, 2007.

Section

1 Appropriation for study. Appropriates funds and establishes requirements for a rail transit feasibility study.

Subd. 1. Appropriation. Appropriates \$500,000 from the general fund to the Met Council for the feasibility study in partnership with the Center for Transportation Studies and the Center for Changing Landscapes.

Subd. 2. Rail transit feasibility study. Directs the Center for Changing Landscapes at the University of Minnesota to conduct a feasibility study of light rail transit or commuter rail along the I-394 or Trunk Highway 55 corridor, including possible combination with the southwest rail transit corridor.

Subd. 3. Elements of feasibility study. Establishes requirements for the feasibility study, including identification of costs and funding sources, evaluation of other transportation systems, evaluation of rail transit impacts, a cost-benefit analysis,

Section

identification of necessary conditions, and evaluation of feasibility of combining rail transit in the I-394 corridor with the proposed southwest rail transit corridor.

Subd. 4. Report. Requires the Met Council to submit the report to the legislature by December 15, 2007.

2 Effective Date. Makes the bill effective the day after final enactment.