

Appendix C

Private Transit Providers Involvement in the Preparation Of the Transportation Improvement Program

As requested by the Federal Transit Act (Sec. 3012) and Circular 7005.1, the following describes the process by which private transit providers were involved in developing the 2006-2008 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

The Metropolitan Council is legislatively authorized to enter into and administer financial assistance agreements with transit providers in the metropolitan area. These transit service programs are classified as small urban, rural, replacement (opt-out) and regular route. The Council distributes state appropriations and/or regional property tax funds to these programs.

The Metropolitan Council identifies the anticipated capital needs of the regional public transit provider (Metro Transit). Private and public sector providers, numbering twenty-five, who operate regular route, dial-a-ride, paratransit and ADA services also require capital assistance. Transit projects which are proposed for inclusion in the TIP are reviewed and recommended for approval by the Metropolitan Council's Transit Providers' Advisory Committee.

In 1994, the *Guidelines for Procurement of Service* was revised. The guidelines provide uniform standards and procedures permitting public transit services to be procured consistently and equitably in the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area, and they are applied whenever services are contracted.
