

Transportation Committee

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of November 13, 2014

Subject: Adoption of the Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Policy

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council adopts the attached Transit Oriented Development Policy (TOD Policy) to guide activities across the organization that advance TOD.

Summary of Committee Discussion/Questions

The Committee voted unanimously to adopt the draft TOD Policy, with one amendment. The amendment was to add the following language under key strategy #3 on Page 2 (Effective Communication): "Provide clear policy guidance to local partners concerning the types of plans and local controls that will be needed to effectively implement these policies."

Transportation Committee

Meeting date: October 28, 2013

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of November 13, 2013

Subject: Adoption of the Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Policy

District(s), Member(s): All

Policy/Legal Reference: N/A

Staff Prepared/Presented: Brian Lamb, General Manager, 612-349-7510
Guy Peterson, Division Director, 651-602-1418
Allison Bell, Manager, Corridors of Opportunity, 651-602-1363

Division/Department: Community Development and Metro Transit

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council adopts the attached Transit Oriented Development Policy (TOD Policy) to guide activities across the organization that advance TOD.

Background

The TOD Strategic Action Plan, adopted by the Council on July 10, 2013, recommended that the Council immediately pursue the adoption of a TOD Policy. To that end, the attached Policy identifies four TOD goals that the Council will advance through its programs, investments, assets and staff. Additionally, it identifies five key strategies that the Council will undertake to advance these goals. Finally, the TOD Policy outlines its purpose, background, and modes of implementation.

This policy serves several purposes:

- To coordinate and align the Council's TOD-related activities
- To communicate the Council's vision and goals for TOD with partners
- To support funding applications for future transitways

The TOD Policy was developed through a collaborative process over the course of nearly two years. During this time, Council leadership, staff, and consultants have held discussions with hundreds of partners and stakeholders to inform the Policy. The TOD policy was also informed by best practices from other regions. Furthermore, it was developed in alignment with the Council's forthcoming Thrive MSP 2040 regional plan and the 2040 Transportation Policy Plan. The Policy was also influenced by ongoing regional efforts such as Corridors of Opportunity.

Rationale

The TOD Policy provides a framework for the Council to play a leadership role across sectors and political boundaries in the planning and implementation of TOD throughout the region. The Council, as the regional planning agency and transit provider, has an important stake in maximizing TOD potential along existing and proposed transit corridors. TOD is an important tool to advance the Council's mission and vision. Specifically, through TOD the Council will advance the following goals:

- Maximize the development impact of transit investments by integrating transportation, jobs and housing
- Support regional economic competitiveness by leveraging private investment
- Advance equity by improving multimodal access to opportunity for all

- Support a 21st century transportation system through increased ridership and revenues

Funding

No additional funding is requested at this time.

Known Support / Opposition

Through the TOD Strategic Action Plan and subsequent discussions, partners have expressed broad support for this approach.