

Transportation Committee

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of March 11, 2020

Subject: 2020-2023 TIP Amendment for MnDOT: Traffic Signal System Upgrade

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council approve an amendment to the 2020-2023 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to add a project upgrading signals on E. 35th Street between Dight Avenue and Hiawatha Avenue in Minneapolis.

NOTE: the location of this project, just east of Hiawatha Avenue has been corrected from the Transportation Committee business item, which had stated that the location was at the intersection of the Blue Line at E. 35th Street.

Summary of Committee Discussion/Questions

This item was approved as part of the consent agenda.

Motion by Cummings, seconded by Gonzalez. Motion carried. **Consent** to Council.

Transportation Committee

Meeting date: February 24, 2020

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of March 11, 2020

Subject: 2020-2023 TIP Amendment for MnDOT: Traffic Signal System Upgrade

District(s), Member(s): 8 – Muse

Policy/Legal Reference: TAB Action

Staff Prepared/Presented: Amy Vennewitz, Deputy Director, Finance & Planning (651-602-1508)
Steve Peterson, manager of Highway Planning and TAB/TAC Process (651-602-1819)
Joe Barbeau, Senior Planner (651-602-1705)

Division/Department: Transportation / Metropolitan Transportation Services (MTS)

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council approve an amendment to the 2020-2023 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to add a project upgrading signals at the intersection of the Blue Line and E. 35th St. in Minneapolis.

Background

This amendment is needed to add a project upgrading the existing signal system with new flashing lights and gates at the intersection of the Blue Line and East 35th St. in Minneapolis into year 2021 in the 2020-2023 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Funding was made available for the project when a project installing gates and flashing lights at CSAH 77 at MNNR Railroad in New Brighton was moved from 2021 to 2022. The project will be funded with Highway Rail Grade Crossings & Rail Safety funds, a federal source programmed by MnDOT.

Rationale

The Transportation Advisory Board and the Metropolitan Council approve formal amendments to the TIP. The project is consistent with the Transportation Policy Plan (TPP) and meets fiscal constraint because the federal and state funds are sufficient to fully fund the project. The Minnesota Interagency Air Quality and Transportation Planning Committee determined that the project is exempt from air quality conformity analysis.

Thrive Lens Analysis

This action promotes safety by improving rail-crossing signals.

Funding

The project is fully funded with state and federal funds.

Known Support / Opposition

This proposed action was reviewed and recommended by the Transportation Advisory Board. No known opposition.

Please amend the 2020-2023 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to include this project in program year 2021. This project is being submitted with the following information:

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION:

State Fiscal Year	ATP/ Dist	Route System	Project Number (S.P. #)	Agency	Description include location, description of all work, & city (if applicable)
2021	M	MSAS 249	27-00328	MnDOT	MSAS 249 at E 35 th St in Minneapolis, Upgrade existing signal system with new flashing lights and gates

Miles	Prog	Type of Work	Prop Funds	Total \$	FHWA \$	Other \$
0.0	SR	Traffic Signal Revision	RRS	190,000	171,000	19,000

PROJECT BACKGROUND:

1. Briefly describe why amendment is needed (e.g., project in previous TIP but not completed; illustrative project and funds now available; discretionary funds received; inadvertently not included in TIP).

This amendment is needed to add new rail project at the blue line and East 35th Street in Minneapolis into SFY 2021.

2. How is Fiscal Constraint Maintained as required by 23 CFR 450.216 (check all that apply)?
 - New Money
 - Anticipated Advance Construction
 - ATP or MPO or MnDOT Adjustment by deferral of other projects
 - Earmark or HPP not affecting fiscal constraint
 - Other

SP 62-00218 (Install gates and flashing lights at CSAH 77 at MNNR Railroad in New Brighton, sponsored by MnDOT) is being moved from SFY 2021 into SFY 2022 releasing \$190,000 (RRS \$171,000/ Match \$19,000) in SFY 2021. This project will use all those funds, therefore fiscal constraint is maintained.

CONSISTENCY WITH MPO LONG RANGE PLAN:

This amendment is consistent with the Metropolitan Council Transportation Policy Plan, adopted by the Metropolitan Council on April 24, 2019 with FHWA/FTA conformity determination established on May 9, 2019.

AIR QUALITY CONFORMITY:

- Subject to conformity determination
- Exempt from regional level analysis
- N/A (not in a nonattainment or maintenance area) X*

*Exempt due to the project’s location outside of the PM10 maintenance area.