

Committee Report

Transportation Committee



Committee Meeting Date: November 28, 2022

For the Metropolitan Council: December 14, 2022

Business Item: 2022-320

Carbon Reduction Program Funding Selection

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council award 2023-2025 Carbon Reduction Program funds to 14 bicycle/pedestrian projects (see Attachment 1) as part of the 2022 Regional Solicitation and include these projects in the draft 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program.

Summary of Transportation Committee Discussion/Questions

Metropolitan Transportation Services Transportation Planning Senior Manager Steve Peterson presented this item. CM Fredson asked whether TAB discussed the option of adding two additional projects or if that discussion happened after the meeting. Chair Barber stated that at the TAB meeting the discussion related to funding a project that was tied with another funded project, resulting in partial use of the 2025 Carbon Reduction Program funds. Therefore, following that meeting, it was suggested that there be merit in using the entire the 2025 allotment, resulting in the inclusion of these two additional projects in the recommendation. CM Sterner asked what scoring differences were between the newly recommended projects. Chair Barber cautioned that it is difficult to compare projects in two different funding categories, as they are scored through different processes.

Motion by Sterner, seconded by Chamblis. Motion carried.



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Carbon Reduction Program Funding Distribution

District(s), Member(s):	All
Policy/Legal Reference:	Transportation Advisory Board (TAB) Action
Staff Prepared/Presented:	Amy Vennewitz, Deputy Director, Finance and Planning (651-602-1508) Steve Peterson, Manager of Highway Planning (651-602-1819)
Division/Department:	Transportation / Metropolitan Transportation Services

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council award 2023-2025 Carbon Reduction Program funds to 14 bicycle/pedestrian projects (see Attachment 1) as part of the 2022 Regional Solicitation and include these projects in the draft 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program.

Background

The new federal Carbon Reduction Program is designed to fund projects that reduce transportation emissions, defined as carbon dioxide, from on-road highway sources. There is a wide array of federally eligible project types including most transit, bike, pedestrian, carpooling, congestion pricing, vehicles/modes that lower emissions (EVs), and approaches that lower construction emissions.

In October 2022, TAB requested, and the Transportation Committee recommended, allocating the 2023 and 2024 Carbon Reduction funds (\$16M total) as part of the 2022 Regional Solicitation cycle. The direction received from the Council's Transportation Committee was to put this funding towards the Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities modal category given that these projects are eligible for this new funding source along with the high number of applications submitted for this mode. The Transit modal category projects are also eligible. However, almost all submitted transit applications are already funded prior to distribution of these funds. Roadway modal category projects are largely ineligible for the Carbon Reduction funding, except for Traffic Management Technologies.

At its November 16, 2022, meeting TAB recommended programming 11 projects for the 2023 and 2024 Carbon funding (shown highlighted in green in Attachment 1). TAB also recommended using \$5.5 million in 2025 Carbon Reduction Program funds to fund the Three Rivers Park District's Bryant Lake Regional Trail Construction project due to its tied score with another project proposed to be funded. This would be made possible by using \$5.5 million (or 2/3) out of the available \$8 million in 2025 Carbon Reduction Program funds. Three Rivers Park District has indicated that there will be synergy with other nearby projects from a timing perspective if their project is funded as part of this funding cycle. If the Council proceeds with funding the Three Rivers project, Council staff suggests funding the next highest scoring projects in the Multiuse Trails and Pedestrian Facilities application categories (the City of Anoka's Rum River Trail 4th Ave Railroad Crossing Multiuse Trail Project and the City of Victoria's 78th Street Pedestrian Overpass) to fully program

the available 2025 funds. Otherwise, the region is left with partial 2025 funding and somewhat limited time to select projects for the 2025 program year. Allocating the 2025 funds would also enable these projects to advance sooner, and still provides time to plan and apply the newly developed approach to carbon reduction investment in future years (2026 and on). This approach would also preserve a similar level of funding, \$16M, for a future solicitation.

There are three primary funding options for the Council to consider:

Option	Projects	% of 2025 Carbon \$ allocated
1. 2023-2024 Funds Only	No additional projects beyond the 11 projects with 2023-2024 funds	0%
2. TAB recommended project addition to avoid tied score	+ Three Rivers Park District tied project (\$5.5M)	66%
3. Additional projects to allocate all of 2025 carbon reduction funds	+ Three Rivers Park District tied project, City of Anoka project, and City of Victoria project (\$8.056M)	100%

Allocation of Carbon Reduction funds for 2026 and beyond will be discussed with the Council and TAB in 2023 pending completion of MnDOT’s required Carbon Reduction Strategy and input from Council climate related planning studies. This planning work will help determine the best use of these new federal funds.

While the selection of the projects discussed here was made possible by the recently created Carbon Reduction Program, the specific funding source used to fund the project will ultimately depend on the funding available in each year and the best year for each project to construct their project. All projects discussed as part of the Regional Solicitation or Carbon Reduction Program will be listed in the draft 2024-2027 TIP as funded projects.

Rationale

The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Action (IIJA) created the Carbon Reduction Program, which is meant to fund projects that help reduce carbon emissions. The new program provides the Council with \$8M per year for fiscal years 2023-2027. Given the limited time to develop a new allocation process focused on carbon reduction and the need to spend 2023 and 2024 funds, the Council and TAB advised that the funds be awarded to bicycle and pedestrian projects submitted to the Regional Solicitation. TAB and Council staff further suggest awarding of 2025 funds. The manner in which to distribute 2026-2027 funds will be discussed and addressed in 2023 by the TAB and Council, pending completion of MnDOT’s required Carbon Reduction Strategy and climate-related planning studies.

Thrive Lens Analysis

This action promotes:

- Stewardship by leveraging federal dollars to support local investment
- Livability by funding emission-free active transportation projects

Funding

These projects are funded with a combination of federal, state, and local funds.



BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN FACILITIES

Multiuse Trails and Bicycle Facilities

Rank	ID	Applicant	County	City	Project Name	B1. Bike/Ped Heavy + Extra to Roadway	Requested Program Year	Federal Requested	Local Match	Total Proj Cost	Federal Cumulative	Total Scores	% of High Score
1	17449	Hennepin Co (Equity Bonus Project)	Hennepin	Minneapolis	Park Ave & Portland Ave Bikeway	\$5,500,000	2027	\$5,500,000	\$2,660,000	\$8,160,000	\$5,500,000	878	100%
2	17721	Minneapolis	Hennepin	Minneapolis	Downtown 9th and 10th St Bikeways	\$4,511,942	2027	\$4,511,942	\$1,127,985	\$5,639,927	\$10,011,942	868	99%
3	17537	Three Rivers PD (Equity Bonus)	Hennepin	Minnetonka, Plymouth	Eagle Lake Regional Trail	\$3,060,333	2026 2027	\$3,060,333	\$765,083	\$3,825,416	\$13,072,275	832	95%
4	17627	St Paul	Ramsey	St. Paul	Capital City Bikeway: Phase 3 Kellogg Blvd	\$5,500,000	2025 2027	\$5,500,000	\$3,935,913	\$9,435,913	\$18,572,275	819	93%
5	17629	St Paul	Ramsey	St. Paul	Capital City Bikeway: Saint Peter St	\$5,500,000	2027	\$5,500,000	\$2,864,855	\$8,364,855	\$24,072,275	809	92%
6	17651	Minneapolis (Equity Bonus)	Hennepin	Minneapolis	Northside Greenway Phase 1	\$4,188,954	2026	\$4,188,954	\$1,047,238	\$5,236,192	\$28,261,229	802	91%
7	17614	Minneapolis	Hennepin	Minneapolis	2nd St North Bikeway	\$4,000,000	2024 2026	\$4,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$5,000,000	\$32,261,229	769	88%
8	17595	Anoka Co (Resubmittal)	Anoka	Fridley	44th Ave Bridge Bike/Ped Trail Project	\$2,015,200	2023 2024 2025 2026	\$2,015,200	\$503,800	\$2,519,000	\$34,276,429	765	87%
9	17579	Mpls Park & Rec (Equity Bonus)	Hennepin	Minneapolis	East Bank Trail Gap Improvements	\$2,560,000	2023 2024 2025 2026	\$2,560,000	\$640,000	\$3,200,000	\$36,836,429	750	85%
10	17473	Three Rivers PD	Hennepin	Hopkins	Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail - 11th Ave	\$760,000	2025 2026 2027	\$760,000	\$190,000	\$950,000	\$37,596,429	745	85%
11	17539	Three Rivers PD (Equity Bonus)	Hennepin	Brooklyn Center	Shingle Creek Regional Trail Realignment	\$2,462,240	2026 2027	\$2,462,240	\$615,560	\$3,077,800	\$40,058,669	737	84%
12	17680	Inver Grove Heights (Resubmittal)	Dakota	Inver Grove Heights	Inver Grove Heights Babcock Trail	\$419,040	2023 2024 2025 2026 2027	\$419,040	\$104,760	\$523,800	\$40,477,709	730	83%
13	17448	Hennepin Co	Hennepin	Minneapolis	Marshall St NE Bikeway Project	\$4,912,000	2027	\$4,912,000	\$1,228,000	\$6,140,000	\$45,389,709	724	82%
T-14	17582	Ramsey Co (Resubmittal)	Ramsey	Gem Lake, Vadnais Heights, White Bear Lake, White Bear Township	Phase 1 Bruce Vento Reg. Trail Extension	\$4,000,000	2024 2025 2026	\$4,000,000	\$3,000,000	\$7,000,000	\$49,389,709	719	82%
T-14	17573	St Paul (Equity Bonus and Resubmittal)*	Ramsey	Newport, St. Paul	Point Douglas Regional Trail Phase 1	\$5,500,000	2026	\$5,500,000	\$1,375,000	\$6,875,000	\$54,889,709	719	82%
T-16	17556	Scott Co (Resubmittal)	Scott	Louisville Township	Merriam Junction Regional Trail	Carbon Reduction	2023 2024 2025 2026 2027	\$5,500,000	\$7,650,000	\$13,150,000	\$60,389,709	703	80%
T-16	17575	Three Rivers PD	Hennepin	Eden Prairie, Minnetonka	Bryant Lake Regional Trail Construction	Carbon Reduction	2026 2027	\$5,500,000	\$1,375,000	\$6,875,000	\$65,889,709	703	80%
18	17663	City of Anoka	Anoka	Anoka	Rum River Trail 4th Ave Railroad Crossing	Carbon Reduction	2025 2026 2027	\$556,000	\$150,000	\$706,000	\$66,445,709	701	80%
19	17532	Three Rivers PD	Hennepin	Brooklyn Park	Shingle Creek Regional Trail: Noble Pkwy		2025 2026 2027	\$1,254,000	\$313,500	\$1,567,500	\$67,699,709	700	80%
20	17541	Three Rivers PD (Equity Bonus)	Hennepin	Bloomington, Edina	CP Rail Regional Trail- Bloomington/Edina		2025 2026 2027	\$4,665,840	\$1,166,460	\$5,832,300	\$72,365,549	696	79%
21	17711	Dakota Co (Resubmittal)	Dakota	Eagan	Fort Snelling State Park UP Rail Overpass		2023 2024 2025 2026 2027	\$3,777,940	\$944,485	\$4,722,425	\$76,143,489	689	78%
22	17712	Dakota Co (Resubmittal)	Dakota	Mendota Heights	Valley Park Trail & Underpass		2023 2024 2025 2026 2027	\$1,372,800	\$343,200	\$1,716,000	\$77,516,289	687	78%
23	17526	Brooklyn Park	Hennepin	Brooklyn Park	Rush Creek Reg. Trail Grade Sep. at CSAH 103		2024 2025 2026 2027	\$1,057,600	\$264,400	\$1,322,000	\$78,573,889	683	78%
24	17531	Three Rivers PD	Hennepin	Plymouth	Medicine Lake Reg. Trail Reconstruction		2025 2026 2027	\$2,883,000	\$720,833	\$3,603,833	\$81,456,889	680	78%
25	17687	Farmington	Dakota	Empire Township, Farmington	North Creek Greenway Reg. Trail - Farmington		2026 2027	\$1,305,600	\$326,400	\$1,632,000	\$82,762,489	679	77%
26	17730	South St Paul	Dakota	South St. Paul	Bryant Avenue Pedestrian Bridge		2024 2025 2026 2027	\$4,145,600	\$1,036,400	\$5,182,000	\$86,908,089	675	77%
27	17589	Richfield	Hennepin	Richfield	73rd St Trail and Bridge Modernization		2026	\$5,500,000	\$3,700,000	\$9,200,000	\$92,408,089	671	76%
28	17599	Plymouth	Hennepin	Plymouth	Station 73 Transit and Regional Trail Project		2024 2025	\$5,500,000	\$3,994,800	\$9,494,800	\$97,908,089	669	76%
29	17713	Dakota Co	Dakota	Mendota Heights	Lebanon Greenway TH 149 Trail		2025 2026 2027	\$817,380	\$204,345	\$1,021,725	\$98,725,469	666	76%
30	17648	Bloomington	Hennepin	Bloomington	Normandale Boulevard Multiuse Trail		2025 2026 2027	\$4,550,000	\$1,139,021	\$5,689,021	\$103,275,469	663	75%
T-31	17736	Dakota Co	Dakota	Rosemount	Rosemount CSAH 42 Trail and Underpass		2025 2026	\$2,480,000	\$620,000	\$3,100,000	\$105,755,469	661	75%
T-31	17719	Lakeville	Dakota	Lakeville	Dodd Blvd Trail Grade Separation Project		2026	\$2,426,400	\$606,600	\$3,033,000	\$108,181,869	661	75%
33	17652	Lakeville	Dakota	Lakeville	Lake Marion Greenway - Lakeville		2025 2026	\$2,852,110	\$713,028	\$3,565,138	\$111,033,979	649	74%
34	17527	Brooklyn Park (Equity Bonus)	Hennepin	Brooklyn Park	Highway 252 and 81st Ave Pedestrian Bridge		2027	\$3,144,000	\$786,000	\$3,930,000	\$114,177,979	646	74%
35	17565	Three Rivers PD	Hennepin	Golden Valley	Bassett Creek Regional Trail - Golden Valley		2025 2026 2027	\$2,604,640	\$651,169	\$3,255,809	\$116,782,619	634	72%
36	17568	Dakota Co	Dakota	Mendota Heights, West St. Paul	Delaware Ave Trail and Sidewalk Connections		2025 2026	\$541,600	\$135,400	\$677,000	\$117,324,219	632	72%
37	17689	Three Rivers PD	Hennepin	Champlin	West Miss. River Reg. Trail: South Segment		2026 2027	\$2,932,160	\$733,040	\$3,665,200	\$120,256,379	628	72%
38	17631	Carver Co (Resubmittal)	Carver	Chanhasen, Eden Prairie	MN River Bluffs Regional Trail		2025 2026 2027	\$1,688,320	\$422,080	\$2,110,400	\$121,944,699	625	71%
39	17714	Dakota Co	Dakota	Eagan, Inver Grove Heights	Veterans Memorial Greenway Trail and Bridge		2025 2026 2027	\$2,800,000	\$700,000	\$3,500,000	\$124,744,699	620	71%
40	17566	Three Rivers PD	Hennepin	Orono, Wayzata	Dakota Rail - Luce Line Connector		2026 2027	\$2,741,333	\$685,333	\$3,426,666	\$127,486,032	614	70%
41	17720	Woodbury	Washington	Woodbury	Woodbury Gold Line Station Trail Connection		2024 2025 2026 2027	\$963,920	\$240,980	\$1,204,900	\$128,449,952	608	69%
T-42	17653	Burnsville	Dakota	Lake Marion Greenway Trail Gap - Sunset Pond Park		2025 2026	\$1,094,673	\$273,668	\$1,368,341	\$129,544,625	601	68%	
T-42	17688	Three Rivers PD	Hennepin	Champlin	West Miss. River Reg. Trail: North Segment		2026 2027	\$3,000,000	\$750,000	\$3,750,000	\$132,544,625	601	68%
T-44	17732	Washington Co	Washington	Hugo	Hardwood Creek Regional Trail Extension		2026 2027	\$526,400	\$131,600	\$658,000	\$133,071,025	600	68%
T-44	17632	Carver Co	Carver	Chaska	Ravine Trail		2025 2026 2027	\$4,573,840	\$1,143,460	\$5,717,300	\$137,644,865	600	68%
46	17658	Eden Prairie	Hennepin	Eden Prairie	Flying Cloud Drive Trail		2024 2025 2026	\$3,271,000	\$820,000	\$4,091,000	\$140,915,865	585	67%
47	17530	Three Rivers PD	Hennepin	Orono	Lake Independence Reg. Trail Reconstruction		2025 2026 2027	\$2,070,000	\$517,500	\$2,587,500	\$142,985,865	576	66%
48	17690	Three Rivers PD	Hennepin	Greenfield, Rockford	Crow River Reg. Trail		2026 2027	\$1,000,000	\$250,000	\$1,250,000	\$143,985,865	480	55%
49	17646	Oakdale	Washington	Oakdale	Multiuse Trail Bridge over I-694		2025 2026	\$924,000	\$231,000	\$1,155,000	\$144,909,865	430	49%
					Total	\$54,889,709		\$144,909,865	\$54,797,896	\$199,707,761			-

*Project also received federal congressionally directed funding for prelim. engineering.

Pedestrian Facilities

Rank	ID	Applicant	County	City	Project Name	B1. Bike/Ped Heavy + Extra to Roadway	Requested Program Year	Federal Requested	Local Match	Total Proj Cost	Federal Cumulative	Total Scores	% of High Score
1	17570	Hennepin Co	Hennepin	Minneapolis	Lake St Pedestrian Project	\$2,000,000	2024 2025 2026	\$2,000,000	\$2,300,000	\$4,300,000	\$2,000,000	868	100%
2	17733	Minneapolis	Hennepin	Minneapolis	1st Ave Pedestrian Improvements	\$2,000,000	2026	\$2,000,000	\$10,683,100	\$12,683,100	\$4,000,000	784	90%
3	17734	Minneapolis	Hennepin	Minneapolis	Elliot Park Pedestrian Improvements	\$2,000,000	2027	\$2,000,000	\$564,770	\$2,564,770	\$6,000,000	750	86%
4	17726	Washington Co	Washington	Stillwater	CSAH 5 Pedestrian Facility	\$400,000	2026 2027	\$400,000	\$100,000	\$500,000	\$6,400,000	641	74%
5	17628	St Paul	Ramsey	St. Paul	Payne Ave Pedestrian Safety Improvements	\$1,200,000	2026	\$1,200,000	\$300,000	\$1,500,000	\$7,600,000	611	70%
T-6	17600	St Paul	Ramsey	St. Paul	Arlington Avenue Sidewalk Infill	Carbon Reduction	2026	\$920,000	\$230,000	\$1,150,000	\$8,520,000	575	66%
T-6	17447	Hennepin Co	Hennepin	Minneapolis	Marshall St Pedestrian Project	Carbon Reduction	2027	\$1,528,000	\$382,000	\$1,910,000	\$10,048,000	575	66%
8	17670	Dakota Co	Dakota	Apple Valley	Cedar Ave Pedestrian Bridge at 140th St	Carbon Reduction	2024 2025 2026	\$2,000,000	\$871,833	\$2,871,833	\$12,048,000	574	66%
9	17503	Minneapolis	Hennepin	Minneapolis	42nd Street Pedestrian Improvements	Carbon Reduction	2025 2026	\$1,623,480	\$405,870	\$2,029,350	\$13,671,480	539	62%
10	17657	Victoria	Carver	Victoria	78th Street Pedestrian Overpass	Carbon Reduction	2025 2026 2027	\$2,000,000	\$1,204,000	\$3,204,000	\$15,671,480	486	56%
Total						\$7,600,000	-	\$15,671,480	\$17,041,573	\$32,713,053			-

Safe Routes to School

Rank	ID	Applicant	County	City	Project Name	B1. Bike/Ped Heavy + Extra to Roadway	Requested Program Year	Federal Requested	Local Match	Total Proj Cost	Federal Cumulative	Total Scores	% of High Score
1	17729	South St Paul	Dakota	South St. Paul	Marie Avenue SRTS	\$1,000,000	2024 2025 2026 2027	\$1,000,000	\$1,246,000	\$2,246,000	\$1,000,000	858	100%
2	17664	New Hope	Hennepin	New Hope, Brooklyn Park	Meadow Lake Elem. SRTS	\$363,617	2026	\$363,617	\$90,904	\$454,521	\$1,363,617	820	96%
3	17558	Minneapolis	Hennepin	Minneapolis	South & Folwell SRTS Improvements	\$1,000,000	2026	\$1,000,000	\$378,850	\$1,378,850	\$2,363,617	765	89%
4	17559	Minneapolis	Hennepin	Minneapolis	Whittier Safe Routes to School	\$1,000,000	2026	\$1,000,000	\$317,030	\$1,317,030	\$3,363,617	754	88%
5	17507	St Paul	Ramsey	St. Paul, Falcon Heights	Chelsea Hts Elem. Ped. Improvements	Carbon Reduction	2026	\$1,000,000	\$440,000	\$1,440,000	\$4,363,617	738	86%
6	17647	Bloomington	Hennepin	Bloomington	Valley View Schools SRTS Improvements	Carbon Reduction	2024 2025 2026 2027	\$398,000	\$100,040	\$498,040	\$4,761,617	705	82%
7	17588	Richfield (Equity Bonus)	Hennepin	Richfield	73rd St SRTS Connection	Carbon Reduction	2026	\$635,000	\$175,000	\$810,000	\$5,396,617	704	82%
8	17731	Chaska	Carver	Chaska	Engler Boulevard Trail Gap	Carbon Reduction	2024 2025 2026 2027	\$825,520	\$206,380	\$1,031,900	\$6,222,137	698	81%
9	17697	Dakota Co	Dakota	West St. Paul, Mendota Heights	Delaware Avenue Trail Gap	Carbon Reduction	2023 2024 2025 2026	\$600,000	\$150,000	\$750,000	\$6,822,137	621	72%
10	17494	Ramsey Co	Ramsey	Vadnais Heights	Koehler Rd/Edgerton St Trail	Carbon Reduction	2024 2025 2026	\$557,654	\$139,413	\$697,067	\$7,379,790	544	63%
Total						\$3,363,617	-	\$7,379,790	\$3,243,618	\$10,623,408			-

Note: Thick black underlines in each list indicate approximately funding lines before IJA increases.
 Projects shaded in green would be funded out of the Carbon Reduction Program funds and this will be considered as part of a separate action.