

Business Item

Transportation Committee



Committee Meeting Date: June 13, 2022

For the Metropolitan Council: June 22, 2022

Business Item: 2022-166

Unified Planning Work Program Amendment

District(s), Member(s):	All
Policy/Legal Reference:	Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act, Infrastructure Investment and Jobs (IIJA) Act
Staff Prepared/Presented:	David Burns, Planning Analyst (651-602-1887) Amy Vennewitz, Deputy Director (651-602-1048)
Division/Department:	Metropolitan Transportation Services (MTS)

Proposed Action

That the Council adopt the proposed amendment (attached) to the 2022 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP).

Background

The Unified Program Work Program (UPWP) is prepared annually and describes the transportation planning activities to be undertaken by the Metropolitan Council, the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, and the Metropolitan Airports Commission. It identifies budgeted expenditures, funding sources, and the allocation of staff resources for transportation planning activities. The 2022 UPWP was adopted by the Council on October 11, 2021, and subsequently approved by MnDOT and USDOT.

The UPWP is developed several months before the start of the annual work. At times the scope and budget of proposed consultant studies require a change to respond to stakeholder feedback or other changing needs. Per the state UPWP Amendment Policy adopted in 2016, the Council must formally approve an amendment under certain circumstances. One such circumstance is a significant change in the proposed budget or scope of work for an identified project.

Since the approval of the 2022 UPWP, federal guidance on ensuring compliance with the USDOT Safe Streets and Roads for All Comprehensive Action Plan was released. To comply with this guidance, staff has determined that the project scope and description should specifically reference that the plan resulting from the proposed work will meet the requirements of the USDOT Safe Streets and Roads for All Notice of Funding Opportunity. In addition, an error in the estimated multiyear total project cost is being corrected to reflect an increase in the total cost of the Regional Safety Action Plan (formerly the Regional Safety Study) from \$100,000 to \$350,000 and to reflect an extension of the project end date to the fourth quarter of 2023. There is no change to the 2022 expected project expenditure of \$100,000. The 2023 UPWP will also reflect these changes when it comes to Council for approval later this year.

Rationale

The UPWP is a federally required description and documentation of proposed transportation and

transportation-related planning activities in the metropolitan area. This action will amend the UPWP to include an updated project description, total project cost and timeline for the Regional Safety Action Plan as shown in the attachments.

Thrive Lens Analysis

This amendment will ensure the Council is thoroughly examining and identifying actions to improve transportation safety on all modes throughout the region. Safety positively impacts all five Thrive regional outcomes.

Funding

This amendment will not alter the 2022 UPWP budget. The total project cost of the Regional Safety Action Plan will be increased from \$100,000 to \$350,000, and the increased spending will be reflected in the 2023 UPWP budget.

