

ACTION TRANSMITTAL No. 2014-48

DATE: July 2, 2014

TO: Transportation Advisory Board

PREPARED BY: Joe Barbeau, Senior Planner (651-602-1705)

SUBJECT: 2014-2017 TIP Amendment for Metro Transit: Fixed Guideway – LRT Associated Capital Maintenance & Track Modifications

REQUESTED ACTION: Metro Transit requests an amendment to include in the 2014-2017 TIP, additional funds for repair, maintenance and upgrade to existing trackwork on the Blue Line light rail transitway (SP# TRF-TCMT-14AX).

RECOMMENDED MOTION: Recommend that the Transportation Advisory Board adopt the amendment into the 2014-2017 TIP to include additional funding for repair, maintenance and upgrade to existing trackwork on the Blue Line light rail transitway (SP# TRF-TCMT-14AX).

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE OF ACTION:

Metro Transit's requested inclusion of additional funds for repair, maintenance and upgrade to existing trackwork on the Blue Line light rail transitway project is funded with funding from the FTA Section 5337 Fixed Guideway formula and is currently programmed in the 2014-2017 TIP. This funding is available as a result of deferral of other projects.

RELATIONSHIP TO REGIONAL POLICY: Federal law requires that all transportation projects that will be funded with federal funds must be in an approved TIP and meet the following four tests: fiscal constraint; consistency with the adopted regional transportation plan; air quality conformity; and opportunity for public input. It is the TAB's responsibility to adopt and amend the TIP according to these four requirements.

STAFF ANALYSIS: The TIP amendment meets fiscal constraint because the local and federal funds are sufficient to fully fund the project. The amendment is consistent with the Transportation Policy Plan, adopted by the Metropolitan Council on November 10, 2010, with FHWA/FTA conformity determination established on February 23, 2011. The Minnesota Interagency Air Quality and Transportation Planning Committee determined that the project is exempt from air quality conformity analysis as it is maintenance of an existing right-of-way. Public input opportunities for this amendment is provided through the TAB's and Council's regular meetings. This amendment meets the criteria for using the TAB's streamlined TIP amendment process and was recommended for streamlining by the TAC Executive Committee.

ROUTING

TO	ACTION REQUESTED	DATE COMPLETED
Technical Advisory Committee Executive Committee	Review & Recommend	7/7/2014
Transportation Advisory Board	Review & Adopt	
Metropolitan Council Transportation Committee	Concurrence	
Metropolitan Council	Concurrence	

Amendment to the Twin Cities 2014-2017 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION:

STATE FISCAL YEAR	A T P	DIST	ROUTE SYS	PROJECT NUMBER (S.P. #) (Fed # if available)	AGENCY	DESCRIPTION include location, description of all work, & city (if applicable)	MILES
2014	M	M	BB	TRF-TCMT-14AX	Met Council-MT	Section 5337: Fixed Guideway – LRT Associated Capital Maintenance & Track Modifications	0.0

PROG	TYPE OF WORK	PROP FUNDS	TOTAL \$	FHWA \$	AC \$	FTA \$	TH \$	OTHER \$
GR	Bus grant Capital Improvement	FTA	\$2,300,000			\$1,840,000		\$460,000

PROJECT BACKGROUND:

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

This represents funding for repair, maintenance and upgrade to existing trackwork on the Blue Line light rail transitway. This amendment adds the following amounts to the line in the 2014 STIP (sequence 1425 – SP# TRF-TCMT-14AX).

Additional Funding

\$1,000,000 Federal

\$ 250,000 Other

\$1,250,000 Total

This funding is available from FFY 2014 5337 Fixed Guideway formula.

- 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 X
 - Earmark or HPP not affecting fiscal constraint _____
 - Other _____

Previously programmed projects, funded by FTA bus and rail formula funds apportioned to the Metropolitan Council, will be deferred to other years or eliminated in order to complete these projects at this time as a result of a change in priority for these transit projects.

CONSISTENCY WITH MPO LONG RANGE PLAN:

This amendment is consistent with the Metropolitan Council Transportation Policy Plan, adopted by the Metropolitan Council on November 10, 2010, with FHWA/FTA conformity determination established on February 23, 2011.

AIR QUALITY CONFORMITY:

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

The Minnesota Interagency Air Quality and Transportation Planning Committee determined that the project was exempt from air quality conformity analysis [reason T-9 for Rehabilitation or reconstruction of track structures, track, and trackbed in existing rights-of-way].