

Transportation Advisory Board
of the Metropolitan Council of the Twin Cities

ACTION TRANSMITTAL No. 2017-17

DATE: June 27, 2017

TO: Transportation Advisory Board

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

SUBJECT: 2017-2020 TIP Amendment for MnDOT: Railroad gates at Hardman Avenue in South St. Paul

REQUESTED ACTION: MnDOT requests an amendment to the 2017-2020 TIP to add a project that will install rail gates at Hardman Avenue in South St. Paul (SP # 19-00147).

RECOMMENDED MOTION: Recommend that TAB adopt the amendment into the 2017-2020 TIP add a project that will install rail gates at Hardman Avenue in South St. Paul (SP # 19-00147).

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE OF ACTION: This amendment is needed to add a project to state fiscal year (SFY) 2018 of the 2017-2020 TIP. The project is in SFY 2018 of the draft 2018-2021 TIP, but will likely be let before that TIP is approved by the United States Department of Transportation. The project will add railroad crossing gates at the Hardman Avenue (MSAS 152) intersection with the UP Rail line. Funding source for the project is Highway Rail Grade Crossing & Rail Safety (MnDOT programmed) funds.

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 per these four requirements.

STAFF ANALYSIS: The TIP amendment meets fiscal constraint because federal and local funds are sufficient to fully fund the project. The amendment is consistent with the Transportation Policy Plan, adopted by the Metropolitan Council on January 14, 2015 and with FHWA/FTA conformity determination established on March 13, 2015. The Minnesota Interagency Air Quality and Transportation Planning Committee determined that the projects are exempt from air quality conformity analysis. Public input opportunity for this amendment is provided through the TAB's and the 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 & Approve for Streamlining	7-7-2017
Transportation Advisory Board	Review & Adopt	-
Metropolitan Council Transportation Committee	Concur	-
Metropolitan Council	Concur	-

Please amend the 2017-2020 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to add the following project in program year 2018. This project is being submitted with the following information:

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION:

SEQ #	STATE FISCAL YEAR	A T P	D I S T	ROUTE SYSTEM	PROJECT NUMBER (S.P. #) (Fed # if available)	AGENCY	DESCRIPTION include location, description of all work, & city (if applicable)	M I L L E S
-	2018	M	M	MSAS 152	19-00147	MNDOT	UP RR, INSTALL GATES AT MSAS 152, HARDMAN AVE, SOUTH ST PAUL, DAKOTA COUNTY	0.0

PROG	TYPE OF WORK	PROP FUNDS	TOTAL \$	FHWA \$	AC \$	FTA \$	TH \$	BOND	OTHER \$
SR	RAILROAD SIGNALS	RRD	\$325,000	\$292,500	-	-	-	-	\$32,500

PROJECT BACKGROUND:

- 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 a new rail project into SFY2018 of the 2017-2020 TIP. This project will be let before the draft 2018-2021 STIP is approved.

- 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

This project will receive anticipated August redistribution federal funds the State of Minnesota receives. MnDOT allocated \$1,000,000 to the rail program for three projects: SP 19-00147 (SEQ. # A2056) for \$292,500 in Dakota County, and two other projects in Greater Minnesota. 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 January 14, 2015, with FHWA/FTA conformity determination established on March 13, 2015.

AIR QUALITY CONFORMITY:

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

*Exempt Project Category S-8: Railroad/highway crossing warning devices per Section 93.126 of the Conformity Rules