

ACTION TRANSMITTAL – 2019-56

DATE: December 5, 2019
TO: Transportation Advisory Board
FROM: Technical Advisory Committee
PREPARED BY: Steven Elmer, Planning Analyst (651) 602-1756
SUBJECT: RBTN Changes Map for Regional Solicitation
REQUESTED ACTION: Accept the RBTN Map and recommend approval for use in the 2020 Regional Solicitation project selection
RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Transportation Advisory Board adopt the RBTN Map incorporating agency-requested administrative changes or corrections for use in the 2020 Regional Solicitation, inclusive of Washington County’s Gold Line BRT parallel bikeway as a new RBTN Tier 1 alignment.

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE OF ACTION: The Regional Bicycle Transportation Network (RBTN) was established in the 2040 Transportation Policy Plan in 2015 as the region’s official bicycle network for transportation, setting the region’s priorities for bicycle planning and investment. The goal of the RBTN is to develop an integrated seamless network of on-street bikeways and off-road trails to effectively improve conditions for daily bicycle transportation and to encourage planning and implementation of RBTN bikeways by local and state agencies. RBTN-prioritized Tier 1 and Tier 2 corridors and alignments have been used in the Regional Solicitation project selection criteria since 2014. The purpose of this action is to accept the RBTN map with administrative changes as updated in November 2019 (<https://tinyurl.com/yynrshmv>), for application in the 2020 Regional Solicitation.

RELATIONSHIP TO REGIONAL POLICY: The RBTN was established in the 2040 Transportation Policy Plan, adopted in January 2015. The RBTN sets the region’s priorities for bicycle planning and investment. The 2016 Regional Solicitation included the RBTN with minor changes. For the 2018 Solicitation, TAB adopted the preliminary TPP additions and adjustments.

STAFF ANALYSIS: For the 2020 Solicitation, staff received RBTN administrative change requests from three agencies. The requested changes were reviewed for consistency with the administrative change types as announced for consideration. All change requests that fit the administrative change types were accepted as proposed, or modified with agreeable adjustments. Staff received requests from two agencies for changes that did not qualify for consideration based on administrative change types distributed: Washington County proposed a Gold Line BRT parallel bikeway as a new Tier 1 alignment and Three Rivers Park District proposed three alignment changes and one new corridor.

COMMITTEE COMMENTS AND ACTION: At its November 14, 2019, meeting, the TAC Planning Committee voted unanimously to recommend acceptance of the map.

At its December 4, 2019, meeting, the TAC voted to add Washington County’s Gold Line BRT parallel bikeway as a new RBTN Tier 1 alignment for the purpose of the 2020 Regional

Solicitation. This was approved by a 14-13 vote, for which the primary rationale was the lack of opportunity for Washington County to make important changes before a funding cycle. Other discussion included the lack of opportunity for other applicants to make a similar request to Washington County's at this time. The TAC then voted unanimously to recommend acceptance of the map.

ROUTING

TO	ACTION REQUESTED	DATE COMPLETED
TAC Planning	Accept & Recommend	November 14, 2019
Technical Advisory Committee	Accept & Recommend	December 4, 2019
Transportation Advisory Board	Adopt for use in 2020 Regional Solicitation	

RBTN Administrative Changes or Corrections Made to the Regional TAB-Adopted Map since 2018

(Changes made since last Solicitation)

Agency	Change Type	Change Made
Minneapolis	Corridor extension	Extend existing corridor on SE Univ. Ave approx. 0.4 mi to NW
Minneapolis	Alignment extension	Extend alignment ½- mi connecting Hennepin Ave to Cedar Lake Trail via Dunwoody Ave
Minneapolis	Alignment extension	Extend alignments on NE 1st/Hennepin Ave one-way pair to Central Ave
Minneapolis	Alignment shift	Shift alignment 1 block from Penn Ave to Queen Ave
Minneapolis	Correction	Include NE 1st Ave/Hennepin Ave (north WB paired alignment)
Dakota County	Corridor shift	Shift Tier 2 corridor near Burnsville Ctr approx. 1/4-mi N to include CSAH 42
Dakota County	Alignment designation/ext.	Designate planned Big River regional trail addition as Tier 1 alignment
Dakota County	Correction	Correct for missing Tier 1 alignment across TH 55 Mendota Bridge
Dakota County	Correction	Move TH 13 Tier 1 align. to correct location above Miss. River bluff
South St Paul	Correction	Extend Tier 2 align. ~ 0.1 mi east to connect to Miss. River Regional Trail
South St Paul	Corridor shift	Shift Tier 1 corridor 0.2 mi south to Villaume Avenues