

ACTION TRANSMITTAL – 2020-17

DATE: April 1, 2020

TO: Transportation Advisory Board

FROM: Technical Advisory Committee

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

SUBJECT: Streamlined 2020-2023 TIP Amendment: Vehicle Purchase for Rise, Inc. (Sect. 5310 MnDOT Capital)

REQUESTED ACTION: MnDOT requests an amendment to the 2020-2023 Transportation Improvement Program to add a purchase of transit vehicles for Rise, Inc. (SP # TRF-1767-21).

RECOMMENDED MOTION: Recommend that the Council adopt an amendment to the 2020-2023 Transportation Improvement Program to add a MnDOT purchase of transit vehicles for Rise, Inc. (SP # TRF-1767-21).

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE OF ACTION: MnDOT was awarded funding from Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5310's Enhanced Mobility for Seniors and Disabilities program, which is programmed by MnDOT's Office of Transit. The selection of these projects is done through grant applications submitted to FTA. The timing of project selection is not always compatible with TIP development and in order for Rise, Inc (the grantee) to purchase its vehicles, an amendment is needed to identify the purchase in the current TIP.

RELATIONSHIP TO REGIONAL POLICY: Federal law requires that all transportation projects that will be funded with federal funds 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 recommend TIP amendments to the Council for adoption.

The Streamlined TIP Amendment Process allows projects that meet certain conditions to be streamlined, which entails forgoing TAC Funding & Programming Committee review and results in saving a month of process time.

STAFF ANALYSIS: This request meets the standards to streamline a TIP amendment in that it is consistent with the Transportation Policy Plan, is not regionally significant, and does not relate to a formal project scope change.

This TIP amendment meets fiscal constraint because the federal and state funds are sufficient to fully fund the project. The amendment is consistent with the Transportation Policy Plan, adopted by the Metropolitan Council on October 24, 2018, as amended on April 24, 2019 with FHWA/FTA conformity determination established on May 9, 2019. The Air Quality and Transportation Planning Committee determined that the project is exempt for air quality conformity analysis. Public input opportunity for these amendments is provided through the TAB's and Council's regular meetings.

COMMITTEE COMMENTS AND ACTION: At its April 1, 2020, meeting, the Technical Advisory Committee voted unanimously to recommend approval of an amendment to the 2020-2023 Transportation Improvement Program to add a MnDOT purchase of transit vehicles for Rise, Inc.

ROUTING

TO	ACTION REQUESTED	DATE COMPLETED
Technical Advisory Committee	Review & Recommend	4/1/2020
Transportation Advisory Board	Review & Recommend	
Metropolitan Council Transportation Committee	Review & Recommend	
Metropolitan Council	Review & Adopt	

Please amend the 2020-2023 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to include this project in program year 2020. This project is being submitted with the following information:

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION:

State Fiscal Year	ATP/Dist	Route System	Project Number (S.P. #)	Agency	Description include location, description of all work, & city (if applicable)	Miles
2020	M	BB	TRF-1767-21	MnDOT	Sect 5310: RISE, INC.; Purchase 5 (class 400) replacement vehicles and 2 (class 400) expansion vehicles	-

Prog	Type of Work	Prop Funds	Total \$	FTA \$	Other \$
FTA Elderly and Persons with Disabilities – Section 5310	Transit Vehicle Purchase	FTA, Sec 5310	627,270	501,816	125,454

PROJECT BACKGROUND:

1. 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).

Section 5310: the Enhanced Mobility for Seniors and Persons with Disabilities program is funded by FTA through MnDOT’s Office of Transit. The selection of these projects is completed through grant applications submitted to FTA. The timing of project selection is not compatible with the TIP/STIP development and for the agency to purchase their vehicles an amendment is needed to identify them in the current STIP. This project needs to be included in the TIP so that FTA can apply for the federal funding for the projects and enter into contract with the subrecipient for those funds.

2. 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 X

Calendar year 2020 FTA Section 5310 will use federal fiscal year 2018 and 2019 appropriations. 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 October 24, 2018, as amended on April 24, 2019 with FHWA/FTA conformity determination established on May 9, 2019.

AIR QUALITY CONFORMITY:

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

Exempt Project Category T-10: Purchase of new buses and rail cars to replace existing vehicles or for minor expansion to the fleet.