ACTION TRANSMITTAL No. 2021-19

DATE: May 10, 2021
TO: Transportation Advisory Board
PREPARED BY: Joe Barbeau, Senior Planner (651-602-1705)
SUBJECT: Release of the Draft 2022-2025 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for a public comment period.
REQUESTED ACTION: The Metropolitan Council requests that the Transportation Advisory Board (TAB) release the draft 2022-2025 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for a public comment period.
RECOMMENDED MOTION: Recommend that the Transportation Advisory Board release the draft 2022-2025 Transportation Improvement Program for public comment.

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE OF ACTION: The Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is a four-year list of federally funded transportation projects required for all metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs). The TIP must include all projects funded with federal transportation funds along with all regionally significant projects. Federal regulations require that a TIP be developed at least every four years. The Metropolitan Council revises its TIP every year in conjunction with the Minnesota Department of Transportation’s State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). The draft 2022-2025 TIP and its development process will meet applicable federal requirements once the public input process is complete. The public comment period is scheduled to run from May 23 to July 6, 2021.

The 2022-2025 TIP approval schedule is as follows:
- May 19, 2021 – TAB releases draft TIP for public review
- July 6, 2021 – Public review/comment period ends
- August 18, 2021 – TAB considers public comments and approval of the final TIP
- September 13, 2021 – Transportation Committee recommends concurrence with the TIP to the Metropolitan Council
- September 22, 2021 – Metropolitan Council concurrence with TAB approval of TIP
- September/October 2021 – MnDOT inclusion of TIP into State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP)
- November/December 2021 – USDOT approves Minnesota STIP

The 2022-2025 TIP includes projects valued at approximately $5.2 billion for highway, freight transit, bicycle, and pedestrian projects. Roughly 16% of federal funding is from the Regional Solicitation. The sources of funds over the four years are summarized as follows:
- Total – $5.2 Billion
  - Federal Highway – $1.3 Billion
  - Federal Transit – $1.5 Billion
  - Property Tax and State Taxes – $1.8 Billion
  - Trunk Highway – $530 Million
For 2021, the public comment period is moving from late June / early August to late May / early July. This will enable staff to have more time to consider public comments prior to the August approval.

RELATIONSHIP TO REGIONAL POLICY: Federal law requires that all transportation projects that will be partially- or fully-funded with federal funds must be in an approved Transportation Improvement Program 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 Metropolitan Council’s responsibility to adopt and amend the TIP according to these four requirements.

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