

Action Transmittal

Transportation Advisory Board



Meeting Date: August 3, 2022

Date: July 27, 2022

Action Transmittal: 2022-28

Streamlined 2022-2025 TIP Amendment: Electric Bus Purchase

To: Transportation Advisory Board

From: Technical Advisory Committee

Prepared By: Joe Barbeau, Senior Planner, 651-602-1705

Requested Action

Metro Transit requests an amendment to the 2022-2025 TIP to add the purchase of eight electric buses.

Recommended Motion

That the Transportation Advisory Board recommend adoption of an amendment to the 2022-2025 TIP to add the purchase of eight electric buses.

Summary

The requested action involves the inclusion of Federal Transit Administration (FTA) funds awarded to Metro Transit in the 2020-2025 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The funds are to be used to purchase eight electric buses.

Background and Purpose

Metro Transit was awarded discretionary funds in federal fiscal year 2021 Low- or No- Emissions Vehicle Program and intends to use the funds on the purchase of eight 40-foot Proterra ZX5 Max electric buses, workforce training, and project management and technical assistance.

The funding source is Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5339, which is not funded through the Regional Solicitation.

Relationship to Regional Policy

Federal law requires that all TIP amendments 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, provided these four requirements are met.

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

Staff Analysis

The TIP amendment meets fiscal constraint because the federal, state, and local funds are sufficient to fully fund the projects. This amendment is consistent with the Metropolitan Council Transportation Policy Plan, adopted by the Metropolitan Council on November 18, 2020, with FHWA/FTA conformity determination established on December 4, 2020. Public input opportunity for this amendment is provided through the TAB's and the Council's regular meetings. The Minnesota Interagency Air Quality and Transportation Planning Committee determined that the projects are exempt from air quality conformity analysis.

Committee Comments and Action

At its August 3, 2022, meeting, the Technical Advisory Committee voted unanimously to recommend that the Transportation Advisory Board recommend adoption of an amendment to the 2022-2025 TIP to add the purchase of eight electric buses.

Routing

To	Action Requested	Date Completed / Scheduled
Technical Advisory Committee	Review & Recommend	August 3, 2022
Transportation Advisory Board	Review & Recommend	August 17, 2022
Metropolitan Council Transportation Committee	Review & Recommend	August 22, 2022
Metropolitan Council	Review & Adopt	August 24, 2022



Please amend the 2022-2025 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to include this project in program year 2023. This project is being submitted with the following information:

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION:

State Fiscal Year	ATP/Dist	Route System	Project Number (S.P. #)	Agency	Description	Miles
2023	M	BB	TBD	Met Council- MT	SECT 5339: Twin Cities Met Council MT- Low/No Emissions Grant – Proterra Electric Bus Purchases	0.0

Prog	Type of Work	Prop Funds	Total \$	FTA \$	Other
TR	Transit	5339	5,238,548	4,190,838	1,047,710

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 because Metro Transit was awarded discretionary funds in the federal fiscal year 2021 Low or no Emissions grant program. This award is for the procurement of eight forty-foot Proterra ZX5 Max electric buses (to be delivered in 2023, workforce training, and CTE’s project management and technical assistance. The source of these funds is federal fiscal year 2021 Section 5339 Low or No Emission competitive funds.

- How is Fiscal Constraint Maintained as required by 23 CFR 450.216 (check all that apply)?

- New Money X
- Anticipated Advance Construction
- ATP or MPO or MnDOT Adjustment by deferral of other projects
- Earmark or HPP not affecting fiscal constraint
- Other X

The funding for this project is FTA 5339; it is new discretionary funding.

CONSISTENCY WITH MPO LONG RANGE PLAN:

This amendment is consistent with the Metropolitan Council Transportation Policy Plan, adopted by the Metropolitan Council on November 18, 2020, with FHWA/FTA conformity determination established on December 4, 2020.

AIR QUALITY CONFORMITY:

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

*Exempt project category T-10. Purchase of new buses and rail cars to replace existing vehicles or for minor expansions of the fleet pursuant to titles 23 and 49 U.S.C., and Federal-aid systems revisions.