

Action Transmittal

Transportation Advisory Board



Meeting Date: October 19, 2022

Date: October 10, 2022

Action Transmittal: 2022-41

Streamlined 2023-2026 TIP Amendment: SouthWest Transit Electric Buses and Charging Station

To: Transportation Advisory Board

From: Technical Advisory Committee

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

Requested Action

MnDOT requests an amendment to the 2023-2026 TIP to add purchase of two electric buses and a charging station for SouthWest Transit (SP # TRS-TCMT-22G).

Recommended Motion

That the Transportation Advisory Board recommend adoption of an amendment to the 2023-2026 TIP to add the purchase of two electric buses and a charging station for SouthWest Transit (SP # TRS-TCMT-22G).

Summary

The requested action involves adding a federally awarded project to purchase two electric buses and a charging station for SouthWest Transit. The project was originally programmed in the 2022-2025 TIP but needs to be moved forward.

Background and Purpose

The project was included in the 2022-2025 TIP and needs to be included in the 2023-2026 TIP because it was not obligated in time to be completed while that TIP is active. The scope and project cost remain unchanged.

The funding source is the Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG) program, awarded through the Regional Solicitation.

This TIP amendment request is to be reflected in the 2023-2026 TIP, which is yet to be approved. The Council will consider the amendment request following federal approval of the 2023-2026 TIP and State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP).

Relationship to Regional Policy

Federal law requires that all TIP amendments meet the following tests: fiscal constraint; consistency with the adopted regional transportation plan; and opportunity for public input. It is the TAB's responsibility to recommend TIP amendments to the Council for adoption, provided these 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 and local funds are sufficient to fully fund the project. 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.

Staff Analysis

At its October 5, 2022, meeting, the Technical Advisory Committee voted unanimously to recommend approval of an amendment to the 2023-2026 TIP to add the purchase of two electric buses and a charging station for SouthWest Transit.

Routing

To	Action Requested	Date Completed / Scheduled
Technical Advisory Committee	Review & Recommend	October 5, 2022
Transportation Advisory Board	Review & Recommend	October 19, 2022
Metropolitan Council Transportation Committee	Review & Recommend	TBD*
Metropolitan Council	Review & Adopt	TBD*

*The request will be provided to the Transportation Committee following United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) approval of the 2023-2026 TIP.



Please amend the 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to include this project in program year 2023. This project is being submitted with the following information:

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION:

Seq #	State Fiscal Year	ATP/ Dist	Route System	Project Number (S.P. #)	Agency	Description	Miles
TBD	2023	M	Transit	TRS-TCMT-22G	MnDOT	Southwest Transit, Purchase 2 electric buses and charging station	0.00

Prog	Type of Work	Prop Funds	Total \$	FHWA \$	Other \$
TR	Transit	STP	295,088	236,071	59,017

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).

This formal amendment is to add this 2023 FHWA transit project into the 2023-2026 TIP. It was originally programmed in 2022 in the 2022-2025 TIP. The scope and project cost remain the same.

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

Federal STP funds are available in a District C set-aside SP 880C-CTPP-23. 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 November 18, 2020, with FHWA/FTA conformity determination established on December 4, 2020.

AIR QUALITY CONFORMITY:

Conformity demonstration is not required as all of the region is in attainment of federal standards for all transportation-related air pollutants as of 9/24/2022.