

Action Transmittal

Transportation Advisory Board



Committee Meeting Date: Sept 20, 2023

Date: Sept 11, 2023

Action Transmittal: 2023-44

2024 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

To: Transportation Advisory Board
From: Technical Advisory Committee
Prepared By: David Burns, Planning Analyst, 651-602-1887
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Requested Action

That the Transportation Advisory Board recommend that the Council adopt the 2024 Unified Planning Work Program.

Recommended Motion

That the Transportation Advisory Board recommend adoption of the 2024 Unified Planning Work Program (attached).

Background and Purpose

The Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) serves as the Council's application for USDOT transportation planning funds. It is required that every metropolitan planning organization (MPO) submit the UPWP for consideration by the USDOT on an annual basis. The UPWP is prepared annually and describes the transportation planning activities that the Council will conduct for the coming year. Participants in the UPWP include the Metropolitan Council, the Minnesota Department of Transportation, the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, the Metropolitan Airports Commission, regional transit providers and local cities, counties, and other stakeholders.

The UPWP includes activities required by federal regulation that address planning priorities of the metropolitan area. The document identifies budgeted expenditures, funding sources, and the allocation of staff resources for the transportation planning activities of the MPO. Projects with Metropolitan Council participation include staff hours and consultant costs that detail how the estimated \$5.6 million of federal planning money will be spent, along with a required minimum 20 percent local match to the federal funds. In 2024, the Council is committing to use federal planning funds and local match to support the regional transportation planning process and continue the significant work to update the 2050 Regional Development Guide and 2050 Transportation Policy Plan.

Many of the tasks described in the UPWP are ongoing activities. Examples include staff support of the TAB/TAC committee process, the annual preparation of the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and support of the Regional Solicitation. Other tasks are focused planning studies that help to move forward the region's transportation policies and knowledge, identify regional investments and fulfill the transportation system vision as outlined in the Transportation Policy Plan. The 2024 UPWP includes over \$2 million in planned consulting costs to complete these

planning studies.

The draft 2024 UPWP is attached. It is anticipated that minor edits may occur prior to submittal based upon comments received from public comment and technical partners.

The draft 2024 UPWP was released for public review on August 21 and accepted comments through September 8. The Public Comment Report is available on the agenda link.

Relationship to Regional Policy

The UPWP is a federally required description and documentation of proposed transportation and transportation-related planning activities in the metropolitan area. The activities include both activities required for the MPO to operate as well as projects that reflect the regional transportation vision.

Committee Comments and Action

At its August 10, 2023, meeting, the TAC Planning Committee voted to recommend adoption of the 2024 Unified Planning Work Program.

At its September 6, 2023 meeting, the Technical Advisory Committee voted to recommend adoption of the 2024 Unified Planning Work Program.

Routing

To	Action Requested	Date Completed (Scheduled)
TAC Planning Committee	Review & Recommend	August 10, 2023
Technical Advisory Committee	Review & Recommend	September 6, 2023
Transportation Advisory Board	Review & Recommend	<i>September 20, 2023</i>
Metropolitan Council Transportation Committee	Review & Recommend	<i>September 25, 2023</i>
Metropolitan Council	Review & Adopt	<i>October 11, 2023</i>

