

# Action Transmittal

Transportation Advisory Board



**Committee Meeting Date:** November 20, 2024

**Date:** November 13, 2024

## Action Transmittal: 2024-48

Regionally Significant TIP Amendment – I-494 E-ZPass Extension and Improvements Project

**To:** Transportation Advisory Board  
**From:** Technical Advisory Committee  
**Prepared By:** Robbie King, Planner, 651-602-1380

### Requested Action

MnDOT requests an amendment to the 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to add a new regionally significant project to extend E-ZPass lanes, reconstruct mainline pavement, improve drainage, rehabilitation bridges, and add ADA improvements on I-494 from Penn Avenue to 34<sup>th</sup> Avenue, I-494 from US 169 to MN 100, and I-35W from 86<sup>th</sup> St to 76<sup>th</sup> Street for the purpose of release for public comment.

### Recommended Motion

That the Transportation Advisory Board recommend adoption of an amendment to the 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to add a regionally significant project to extend E-ZPass, reconstruct mainline pavement, improve drainage, rehabilitation bridges, and add ADA improvements on I-494 from Penn Avenue to 34<sup>th</sup> Avenue, I-494 from US 169 to MN 100, and I-35W from 86<sup>th</sup> St to 76<sup>th</sup> Street for the purpose of release for public comment.

### Background and Purpose

MnDOT requests an amendment to the 2025-2028 TIP to add its regionally significant Interstate 494 E-ZPass extension project (SP# 2785-462). This project will extend the I-494 E-ZPass lanes, reconstruct mainline pavement, improve drainage, and add ADA improvements on I-494 from Penn Avenue to 34<sup>th</sup> Avenue, I-494 from US 169 to MN 100, and I-35W from 86<sup>th</sup> St to 76<sup>th</sup> Street in Richfield and Bloomington. This project is funded with \$135,000,000 of federal funds, along with \$85,000,000 of Corridors of Commerce funds.

### 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. Because the new project is regionally significant, the request is subject to a 21-day public comment period.

### Staff Analysis

The TIP amendment meets fiscal constraint because the federal and state funds are sufficient to fully fund the project. This project is listed in the 2040 TPP and draft 2050 TPP and 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 along with the 21-day public comment period.

### Committee Comments and Actions

At its October 17, 2024, meeting, the TAC Funding and Programming Committee voted unanimously to recommend adoption of an amendment to the 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to add a regionally significant project to extend E-ZPass, reconstruct mainline pavement, improve drainage, and add ADA improvements on Interstate 494 from Penn Avenue to 34<sup>th</sup> Avenue for the purpose of release for public comment.

At its November 6, 2024, meeting the Technical Advisory Committee recommended that TAB adopt an amendment to the 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to add a regionally significant project to extend E-ZPass, reconstruct mainline pavement, improve drainage, rehabilitation bridges, and add ADA improvements on I-494 from Penn Avenue to 34<sup>th</sup> Avenue, I-494 from US 169 to MN 100, and I-35W from 86<sup>th</sup> St to 76<sup>th</sup> Street for the purpose of release for public comment.

### Routing

To	Action Requested	Date Completed (Scheduled)
TAC Funding & Programming Committee	Review & Recommend	October 17, 2024
Technical Advisory Committee	Review & Recommend	November 6, 2024
Transportation Advisory Board	Review & Release for Public Comment	<i>November 20, 2024</i>
Transportation Advisory Board	Review & Recommend	<i>December 18, 2024</i>
Metropolitan Council Transportation Committee	Review & Recommend	<i>December 23, 2024</i>
Metropolitan Council	Review & Adopt	<i>January 8, 2024</i>



# 2025-2028 TIP AMENDMENT REQUEST

Please amend the 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to (add/adjust) the below (project/projects) (more info, if needed).

## Project identification

<b>Seq #</b>	TBD
<b>State Fiscal Year (State)</b>	2026
<b>ATP and District</b>	METRO
<b>Route System</b>	I494
<b>Project Number (S.P. #)</b>	2785-462
<b>Agency</b>	MNDOT
<b>Description</b>	<b>**PRS**COC3**INFRA**</b> ON I-494 FROM TH 169 TO TH 100, PENN AVE TO 34 <sup>TH</sup> AVE IN BLOOMINGTON AND ON I-35W FROM 86 <sup>TH</sup> ST IN BLOOMINGTON TO 76 <sup>TH</sup> ST IN RICHFIELD, MOBILITY & SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS, RECONSTRUCT MAINLINE PAVEMENT, DRAINAGE, AND ADA IMPROVEMENTS, RECONSTRUCT BRIDGES 9289, 9213, 9081A, 9081 AND 9082, REHAB BRIDGES 9078, 27709, 27712 AND 27820, REPLACE SIGNALS AT FRANCE AVE & 24 <sup>TH</sup> AVE.
<b>Miles</b>	7.62
<b>Program</b>	MAJOR CONSTRUCTION
<b>Type of Work</b>	GRADE AND SURFACE
<b>Proposed Funds</b>	COC BONDS, FFM
<b>Total \$</b>	\$220,000,000
<b>FHWA \$</b>	\$135,000,000
<b>COC BONDS</b>	\$85,000,000
<b>LOCAL</b>	NA

## Background and TIP Amendment Need

This amendment is needed to add a new SFY26 project in the 2025-2028 TIP.

## Fiscal Constraint (as required by 23 CFR 450.216)

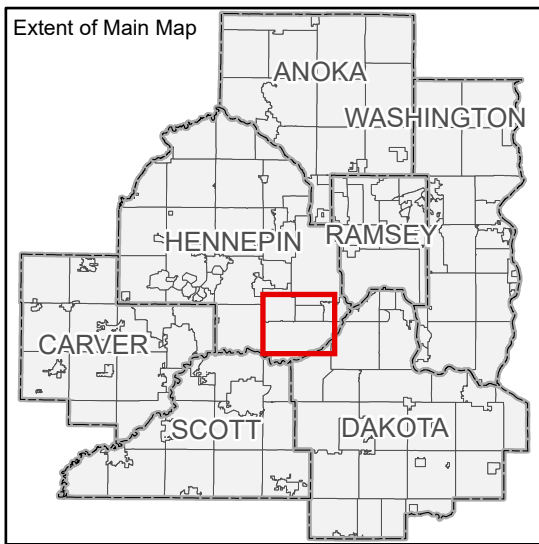
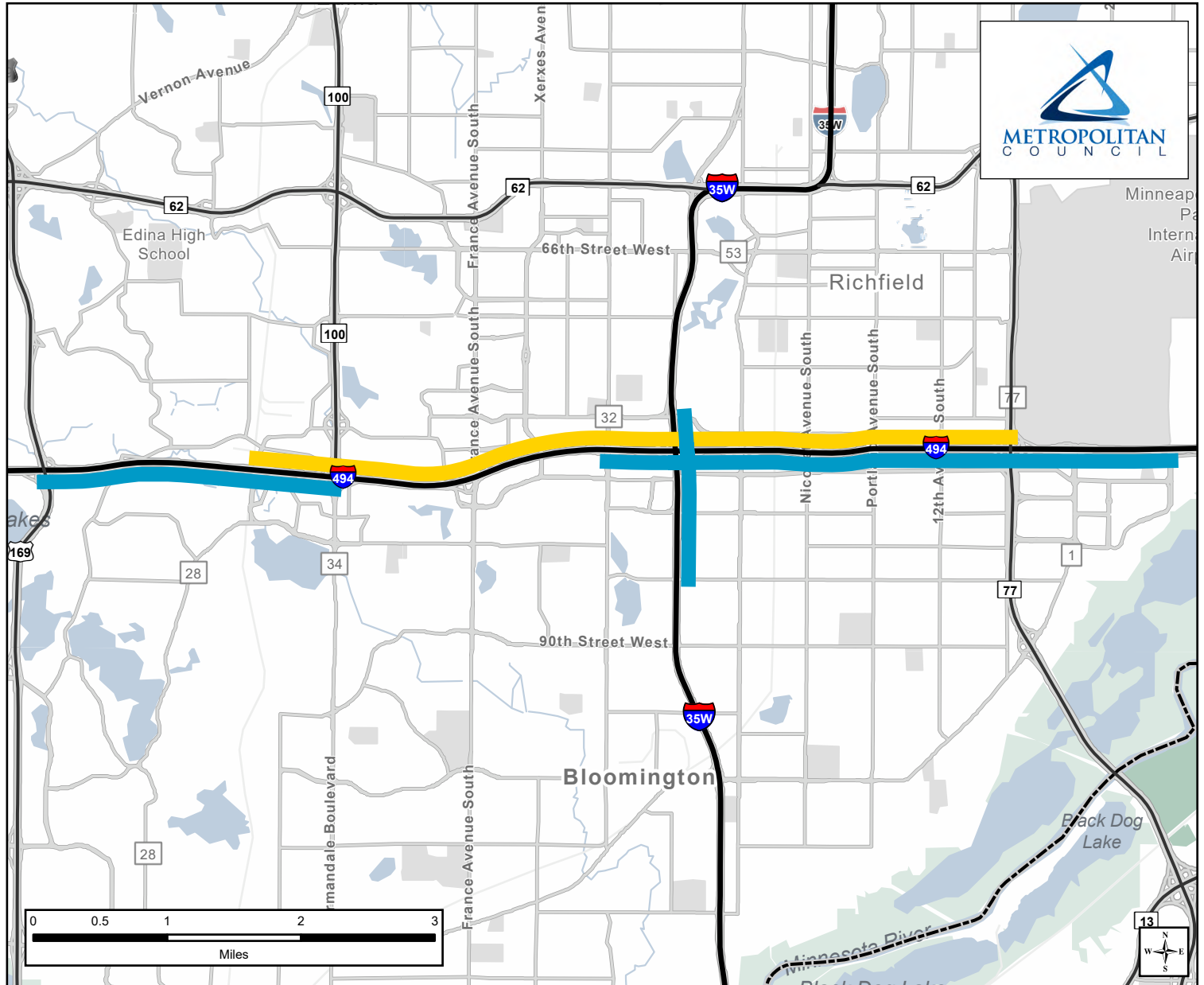
Federal funds available from Discretionary IIJA grant awarded 10/21/2024 and Corridors of Commerce (COC) Bonds available from SP 2748-65 which will be dropped from the program once the 2025-2028 STIP is approved, are sufficient to fully fund this project therefore fiscal restraint is maintained.

## 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.

# TAB AT: 2024-48

## Regionally Significant TIP Amendment – I-494 E-ZPass Extension and Improvements Project



State Project Number: 2785-642

**TIP Description:**

**\*\*PRS\*\*COC3\*\*INFRA\*\* ON I-494 FROM TH 169 TO TH 100, PENN AVE TO 34TH AVE IN BLOOMINGTON AND ON I-35W FROM 86TH ST IN BLOOMINGTON TO 76TH ST IN RICHFIELD, MOBILITY & SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS, RECONSTRUCT MAINLINE PAVEMENT, DRAINAGE, AND ADA IMPROVEMENTS, RECONSTRUCT BRIDGES 9289, 9213, 9081A, 9081 AND 9082, REHAB BRIDGES 9078, 27709, 27712 AND 27820, REPLACE SIGNALS AT FRANCE AVE & 24TH AVE.**

**Reference Layers**

- Ongoing Construction
- TIP Amendment
- Interstate Highways
- State, US Highways and County Roads

11/8/2024

Source: County of Dakota, Metropolitan Council, MetroGIS, Three Rivers Park District, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, SafeGraph, GeoTechnologies, Inc, METI/NASA, USGS, EPA, NPS, USDA, USFWS



**U.S. Department of Transportation**

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590

**Project Name:** I-494 E-ZPass Project  
**Grantee:** Minnesota Department of Transportation  
**Grant Funding:** \$138,001,000  
**Sources:** INFRA FY 25 Large - \$25,000,000, INFRA FY 26 Large - \$113,001,000  
**Estimated Future Eligible Project Costs:** \$331,500,000  
**INFRA Leverage Pilot Designation:** No

**Project Description:** The project will add E-ZPass lanes on I-494 in both directions between Highway 169 and East Bush Lake Road, and I-35W and Highway 77; replace old infrastructure including a railroad bridge over I-494 between Lyndale Avenue and Nicollet Avenue; and reconstruct the interchange at I-35W and 82nd Street.

**Congratulations!** The project listed above was selected to receive an MPDG FY 2025-2026 grant.

All grantees must execute a grant agreement in a timely manner with the USDOT. This letter does not authorize the grantee to incur costs to carry out the project. The execution of the grant agreement will obligate INFRA grant funding, making it available to reimburse eligible expenses for the awarded project. Unless authorized by USDOT in writing, any costs incurred prior to execution of the grant agreement for a project (i.e., "pre-award costs") are ineligible for reimbursement and may be ineligible to count towards non-Federal match requirements. Written pre-approval is required for all pre-award costs, including those considered under 23 U.S.C. § 117(k). This letter does not authorize pre-award costs to be eligible.

Your prepopulated draft grant agreement from USDOT is attached. As a condition of this award, the Department expects grantees to execute grant agreements and obligate within 30 days of meeting the obligation pre-requisites, including phased obligations. Execution of a grant agreement to obligate INFRA funds may occur as early as December 15, 2024, if requirements are met. All agreements must be executed and fully obligated by September 30, 2028.

To accelerate project delivery and fund access to grantees, USDOT has assigned this project multiple years of funding, of which the FY 2025 portion could be obligated promptly to advance preconstruction activities under a phased agreement. Please review to confirm or adjust the amount required for the first phase of this agreement to advance your project, and submit a revised grant agreement to USDOT by November 20, 2024.

The Office of the Secretary will hold a Welcome Webinar to provide a high-level overview of the program and next steps on November 7, 2024 at 3pm Eastern. Recipients may register here:

[https://usdot.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN\\_3RnVDCMSTIW\\_SMf6f4yd2w](https://usdot.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_3RnVDCMSTIW_SMf6f4yd2w).

The USDOT Operating Administration (OA) overseeing your project will contact you in the coming weeks regarding next steps to complete the relevant requirements. Please copy [MPDGGrants@dot.gov](mailto:MPDGGrants@dot.gov) upon initial submission of revised grant agreement to the OA point of contact.

If you have any questions about this award, please contact the MPDG Team at [MPDGGrants@dot.gov](mailto:MPDGGrants@dot.gov).

Sincerely,

John Augustine

Director, Office of Infrastructure Finance and Innovation  
Office of the Secretary