

Action Transmittal

Transportation Advisory Board



Committee meeting date: November 19, 2025

Date: November 7, 2025

Action Transmittal: 2025-36

2026 Active Transportation Funding Targets

To: Transportation Advisory Board
From: Technical Advisory Committee
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Requested action

Approve modal funding targets for the 2026 Active Transportation Solicitation.

Recommended motion

That the Transportation Advisory Board approve a \$50 million funding target for the 2026 Active Transportation Solicitation and a sub-target of \$2 million for the active transportation planning category.

Background and purpose

In 2023, the Minnesota Legislature approved a regional sales tax for the seven-county Twin Cities region to support various transportation improvements. A portion of this funding is dedicated to active transportation projects to be distributed by the Transportation Advisory Board (TAB).

As part of the Regional Solicitation Evaluation, a subgroup of TAB and technical members was established called the Active Transportation Working Group to discuss and provide recommendations on the Active Transportation (AT) regional sales tax solicitation. These discussions included identifying specific project types to be funded through the regional sales tax and recommending funding targets for the three proposed application categories.

AT Working Group discussions centered on available funding anticipated by 2026 and whether any future year's expected revenue would be considered for the 2026 Solicitation. Based on the revenue accrued from 2023 to 2025 with anticipated funding generated in 2026 minus grants previously awarded, staff anticipate approximately \$52.5 million to be available by the end of 2026. The Working Group did not want to commit future revenues. The Working Group recommended a funding target of \$50 million for the active transportation funded categories and is anticipated to recommend a \$2 million sub-target for the Active Transportation Planning category from the \$50 million overall at its October meeting. The Working Group did not recommend targets for the Local Bicycle and Local Pedestrian application categories to retain flexibility during project selection.

The Active Transportation Working Group recommended the following funding targets:

- Active Transportation Solicitation (all funded categories): \$50 million
 - Active Transportation Local Bicycle and Pedestrian infrastructure categories: \$48 million

- Active Transportation Planning category target: \$2 million

TAB is being asked to include these targets as part of a 2026 Regional Solicitation package to be released for public comment.

Relationship to regional policy

The Minnesota Legislature dedicated a portion of the regional sales tax funding to TAB for distribution to active transportation projects. Per the legislation, the selection process must include criteria and prioritization of projects based on the following seven requirements:

1. the project's inclusion in a municipal or regional nonmotorized transportation system plan;
2. the extent to which policies or practices of the political subdivision encourage and promote complete streets planning, design, and construction;
3. the extent to which the project supports connections between communities and to key destinations within a community;
4. identified barriers or deficiencies in the nonmotorized transportation system;
5. identified safety or health benefits;
6. geographic equity in project benefits, with an emphasis on communities that are historically and currently underrepresented in local or regional planning; and
7. the ability of a grantee to maintain the active transportation infrastructure following project completion.

Staff analysis

The targets follow the discussion and recommendations of the Active Transportation Working Group.

Committee comments and action

At its October 16, 2025, meeting, the TAC Funding & Planning Committee recommended that the Technical Advisory Committee recommend a \$50 million funding target for the 2026 Active Transportation Solicitation and a sub-target of \$2 million for the active transportation planning category.

At its November 5, 2025, meeting, the Technical Advisory Committee recommended the Transportation Advisory Board approve a \$50 million funding target for the 2026 Active Transportation Solicitation and a sub-target of \$2 million for the active transportation planning category. Discussion included that the Bike Facilities and Pedestrian Facilities categories do not have separate targets because the demand for the two categories is not yet known. Discussion on timing indicated that the next funds will be available in 2026.

Routing

To	Action Requested	Date Completed or Scheduled
TAC Funding & Programming Committee	Review and recommend	October 16, 2025
Technical Advisory Committee	Review and recommend	November 5, 2025
Transportation Advisory Board	Review and approve	<i>November 19, 2025</i>

