

**Transportation Advisory Board**  
of the Metropolitan Council of the Twin Cities

---

**ACTION TRANSMITTAL**

No. 2012-16

**DATE:** April 11, 2012  
**TO:** Transportation Advisory Board  
**FROM:** Technical Advisory Committee  
**SUBJECT:** TIP Amendment Request by MnDOT to include federal funds for five Rail Crossing Projects.

**MOTION:** That the TAB adopts an amendment to the 2012-2015 Transportation Improvement Program that adds SP#s: 13-00001, 27-00306, 27-00307, 62-00206, 62-00207: Rail Crossing Equipment Replacement.

**BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE OF ACTION:** MnDOT has a set-aside in the 2012-2015 TIP for rail crossings projects that are determined by MnDOT's Office of Freight and Commercial Vehicles. MnDOT would like to add \$5,000 from this set-aside to each of these five projects to replace antiquated equipment. Additional background material is attached.

**RELATIONSHIP TO REGIONAL POLICY:** Federal law requires that all transportation projects that will be partially funded with federal funds must be in an approved Transportation Improvement Program and 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 adopt and amend the TIP according to these four requirements.

---

**ROUTING**

<b>TO</b>	<b>ACTION REQUESTED</b>	<b>DATE COMPLETED</b>
TAC Funding & Programming Committee	Review & Recommend	February 16, 2012
Technical Advisory Committee	Review & Recommend	April 4, 2012
TAB Programming Committee	Review & Recommend	
Transportation Advisory Board	Review & Adopt	
Metropolitan Council	Concurrence	



## Minnesota Department of Transportation

Office of Freight and Commercial Vehicle Operations  
Mail Stop 470  
395 John Ireland Blvd.  
St. Paul, MN 55155-1899

Tel: 651/215-6330  
Fax: 651/366-3720

March 5, 2012

Karl Keel, Chair  
TAC Funding and Programming Committee  
Metropolitan Council  
390 N. Robert St.  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101

RE: Amendment to the Minnesota 2012-2015 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)  
State Project Number: 13-00001, 27-00306, 27-00307, 62-00206, 62-00207  
Federal Project Number:

Dear Mr. Keel:

Please amend the Minnesota 2012-2015 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to add the following new projects in SFY 2012 of the TIP. The projects are being submitted with the following information:

### PROJECT IDENTIFICATION:

*Please see list of projects on page 4.*

### 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).

Project 880C-RAIL-12 is in SFY 2012 of the 2012-15 STIP with a total of \$88,900 including \$80,000 in federal funds and \$8,900 in other funds. This is a funding set aside for rail grade crossing projects for SFY 2012. The MnDOT Office of Freight & Commercial Vehicle Operation (OFCVO) has decided to use the funds in this set aside to replace antiquated equipment at various railroad crossings statewide. This formal STIP amendment is being done to identify five (5) of the projects that OFCVO has selected.

An Equal Opportunity Employer



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

- New Money – \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Discretionary, Special Allocations or Other New Funding Sources)
- Anticipated Advance Construction \_\_\_\_\_
- ATP or MPO or Mn/DOT Adjustment  
 of other projects   X\*
- Earmark or HPP federal funds outside ATP  
 target \_\_\_\_\_
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

\* SP 880C-RAIL-12 (Seq. # 2182) is in SFY 2012 of the STIP with a total of \$88,900 including \$80,000 in federal funds and \$8,900 in other funds. This is a funding set aside for rail grade crossing projects for SFY 2012. The new rail projects being added with this formal amendment will use a total of \$25,000 of these federal funds (see page 5 for funding breakdowns). The federal funds being used will be matched with state rail bonds. \$40,000 in federal funds has already been identified by other projects statewide, the remaining \$23,900 in federal funds will be used to fund other rail projects yet to be identified for SFY 2012. Available federal funds from a funding set aside and state rail bonds will be used to fully fund these new rail projects, therefore fiscal constraint is maintained.

**CONSISTENCY WITH MPO LONG RANGE PLAN:**

This amendment is consistent with the Metropolitan Council Transportation Policy Plan, adopted on January 14, 2009, with FHWA/FTA conformity determination established on September 16, 2009. The amendment is also consistent with the 2030 Policy Plan update adopted by the Metropolitan Council on November 10, 2010 with FHWA/FTA conformity determination established on February 23, 2011.

**AIR QUALITY CONFORMITY:**

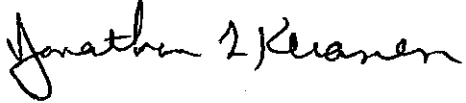
- Subject to conformity determination.....\_\_\_\_\_
- Exempt from regional level analysis\*.....   Yes
- Exempt from project level analysis\*.....   Yes
- Exempt by virtue of interagency consultation\*.....\_\_\_\_\_
- N/A (not in a nonattainment or maintenance area) .....\_\_\_\_\_

Karl Keel  
March 5, 2012  
Page 3

\*Exempt Project Category # S-8 Railroad/highway crossing warning devices, Per Section 93.126 of the Conformity Rules

We are requesting approval of this TIP amendment at this time. If you have any questions, please call Peter Dahlberg at (651) 234-336-3693

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jonathan Keranen". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Jonathan Keranen  
Program Manager  
MnDOT Office of Freight and Commercial Vehicle Operations

cc: Jon P. Solberg, Metro Program Management  
Cindy Krumsieg, Metro Program Management

**LIST OF PROJECTS**

SEQ #	STATE FISCAL YEAR	A T P	ROUTE SYSTEM	PROJECT NUMBER (S.P. #) (Fed # if available)	AGENCY	DESCRIPTION <small>include location, description of all work, &amp; city (if applicable)</small>	MILES	PROG	TYPE OF WORK	PROP FUNDS	TOTAL \$	FHWA \$	AC \$	FTA \$	TH \$	OTHER \$ (State Rail Bonds)	AIR QUALITY CONFORMANCE
	2012	M	RR	13-00001	MnDOT	RR X-ing at West 8 <sup>th</sup> Street in Rush City – Replace antiquated equipment (Gates)	0.0	SR	RR X-ing Improve ments	RRS	\$175,000	\$5,000	0	0	0	\$170,000 (State Rail Bonds)	S-8
	2012	M	RR	27-00306	MnDOT	RR X-ing at Lyndale Ave in Minneapolis – Replace antiquated equipment (Cantilevers & Gates)	0.0	SR	RR X-ing Improve ments	RRS	\$275,000	\$5,000	0	00	0	\$270,000 (State Rail Bonds)	S-8
	2012	M	RR	27-00307	MnDOT	RR X-ing at West 86 <sup>th</sup> Street in Bloomington – Replace antiquated equipment (LED Cantilever Flashers)	0.0	SR	RR X-ing Improve ments	RRS	\$225,000	\$5,000	0	0	0	\$220,000 (State Rail Bonds)	S-8
	2012	M	RR	62-00206	MnDOT	RR X-ing at Wabash Ave in St. Paul – Replace antiquated equipment (Cantilevers)	0.0	SR	RR X-ing Improve ments	RRS	\$200,000	\$5,000	0	0	0	\$195,000 (State Rail Bonds)	S-8
	2012	M	RR	62-00207	MnDOT	RR X-ing at Myrtle Ave in St. Paul – Replace antiquated equipment (Cantilevers)	0.0	SR	RR X-ing Improve ments	RRS	\$200,000	\$5,000	0	0	0	\$195,000 (State Rail Bonds)	S-8