

Metropolitan Council Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendments: Proposed Streamlined Process

Conditions for Using a Streamlined Amendment Process

Any project where:

- 1) The federal funding for the project is from a program not administered by the Transportation Advisory Board and the Metropolitan Council (and constitutes “new money” added to the TIP).
- 2) The project is consistent with the adopted Transportation Policy Plan.
- 3) The project is not a regionally-significant project or is a regionally-significant project currently in the TIP but is not changing the scope or any other elements that would potentially change the air quality conformity determination.
- 4) The project does not relate to a scope change before the committee.
- 5) For projects funded through the Transportation Advisory Board and the Metropolitan Council, the changes do not relate to solicitation scoring based on cost effectiveness.

Process

The TIP amendment request is submitted as usual. The Minnesota Interagency Air Quality and Transportation Planning Committee will, in its review of the project for air quality conformity determination, clarify if the project would be eligible for the streamlined process. If the project meets the overall criteria, Met Council staff submits the request for streamlining to the TAC Executive Committee, which approves or denies the streamlined process. If approved, the amendment moves as an action directly to TAB. Information about streamlined amendments could be presented as information to the Funding and Programming Committee and TAC. If denied, the amendment would move through the full five-committee Council process (TAC Funding & Programming Committee, TAC, TAB, Transportation Committee, and the Metropolitan Council).

Example projects that could use this process:

- Congressional earmarks
- Projects funded through statewide programs, such as Section 5310 transit projects or Safe Routes to School (before 2017).
- Cost increases that do not affect the federal amount or project scope.

Project sponsor submits TIP amendment request

Met Council TIP staff submits request for air quality & interagency reviews

Met Council TIP staff notifies TAC Executive Committee of submittals that meet streamlining criteria

TAC Executive Committee approves or denies streamlined process

Denied
(10-12 week process)

Amendment follows full five-committee Council process

Approved
(6-8 week process)

Amendment as action item at TAB

Amendment at Transportation Committee

Met Council concurrence