

ACTION TRANSMITTAL No. 2014-30

DATE: April 30, 2014
TO: Technical Advisory Committee
FROM: TAC Funding and Programming Committee
PREPARED BY: Heidi Schallberg, Senior Planner (651-602-1721)
SUBJECT: 2017 TAP Final Scores, Rankings, and Funding Recommendations
REQUESTED ACTION: Metropolitan Council requests a recommendation for TAB approval of 1) the final scores and rankings for the 2017 Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) applications and 2) funding recommendations from the Funding and Programming Committee.
RECOMMENDED MOTION: Recommend approval of 1) the final scores and rankings for the 2017 Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) applications and 2) funding recommendations from the Funding and Programming Committee, as attached.

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE OF ACTION: In September 2013, the Funding and Programming Committee was presented with information about 2017 funding allocation options. TAB proceeded with conducting two separate solicitations for 2017, one for Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) funds and one for regionally-significant transit projects with Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) funds.

For the 2017 TAP solicitation, 42 applications were received with a total of \$26.4 million in federal funding requests. For 2017, \$6,320,000 is available for TAP funds. Applications were evaluated by a scoring committee with members from cities, counties, state agencies, and park agencies. Initial scores were released in early April, and applicants were given an opportunity to request re-evaluation of their scores. Some adjustments were made by the Funding and Programming Committee as discussed below.

RELATIONSHIP TO REGIONAL POLICY: TAB develops and issues a Regional Solicitation for federal funding.

COMMITTEE COMMENTS AND ACTION: At its April 17, 2014, meeting, the Funding and Programming Committee discussed application scores and applicant appeals. The committee adjusted two project scores based on the appeals. After accepting the final scores and rankings, the committee discussed potential funding options for this federal program. Discussion included whether or not costs should be adjusted for inflation and if over-programming should be used. The committee unanimously recommended to (1) add 4% inflation to the project costs and (2) overprogram by approximately \$397,500 (6.3 percent). If all projects are delivered on schedule and using their full budgets, these recommendations would result in one or more SFY 2017 TAP projects being required to Advance Construct (build the project in SFY 2017 and be paid back by the program in a

later year), and \$397,500 fewer dollars would be available in the SFY 2018 TAP solicitation.

Because the current federal transportation legislation does not extend to 2017 or 2018, all funded TAP projects may be at risk of no longer being eligible for federal funding if the federal legislation changes for those years.

ROUTING

TO	ACTION REQUESTED	DATE COMPLETED
TAC Funding & Programming Committee	Review & Recommend	April 17, 2014
Technical Advisory Committee	Review & Recommend	
Transportation Advisory Board	Review & Approve	