

ACTION TRANSMITTAL No. 2020-19

DATE: April 29, 2020
TO: Technical Advisory Committee
FROM: TAC Planning Committee
PREPARED BY: Amy Vennewitz, MTS Deputy Director (651-602-1058)
SUBJECT: Draft *2040 Transportation Policy Plan* 2020 Update
REQUESTED ACTION: Recommend that the draft update of the *2040 Transportation Policy Plan* be released for public review and comment
RECOMMENDED MOTION: Recommend that the Transportation Advisory Board recommend that the Metropolitan Council release the draft update of the *2040 Transportation Policy Plan* for public review and comment

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE OF ACTION: The current *2040 Transportation Policy Plan* was adopted in October 2018. Under federal requirements (and given the region's new carbon monoxide attainment status), the plan must be updated at least every five years to reflect current demographic and fiscal forecasts and expected major transportation projects. This federal timeline would require an update by 2023. However, the region also prepares the regional transportation plan in conformance with state law, which requires an update in 2024, concurrently with the update of the Regional Development Guide (*Thrive MSP 2040*). In order to accommodate both the federal and state requirements, the Council and TAB approved a minor plan update to occur in 2020, thereby allowing for the next major plan update to occur in 2024.

The TPP update changes are limited primarily to changes that have occurred between 2018 and 2020, particularly incorporating the results of planning and corridor studies that have concluded or changes to major projects funding and implementation. In addition, the Work Program chapter has been significantly updated to remove studies that have concluded and add new major planning studies focused on pressing issues facing the region. The study additions include three planning studies to incorporate learning and changes due to the COVID-19 outbreak. One planning study will update the region's financial analysis for highways and transit to incorporate the revenue impacts of the outbreak; a second study will conduct surveys and analyze the travel behavior impacts of the outbreak, along with predicting any longer term impacts to travel choices; and the third study will analyze the impacts of the outbreak on the region's aviation system and incorporate any necessary changes to the aviation system long range plan.

The Council kicked off this update to the 2040 Transportation Policy Plan in January 2020, with the expectation that the plan update be adopted in fall 2020. MTS staff have worked with agency and local government stakeholders and received comments through the TAC Planning committee, TAC, Transportation Advisory Board (TAB), the Council and its advisory committees including the Transportation Accessibility Advisory Committee. During the public comment and review period in the summer of 2020 substantial outreach to stakeholders will also take place.

RELATIONSHIP TO REGIONAL POLICY: The Metropolitan Council and its Transportation Advisory Board are required, under both state and federal law, to develop a multimodal long-range regional transportation plan that identifies transportation system goals, needs, and investment priorities over at

least a 20-year period. The plan must be updated at least every five years. This draft update fulfills these requirements and allows for the next major plan update to occur in 2024, along with the update to the Regional Development Guide.

STAFF ANALYSIS: The draft update to the 2040 TPP is proposed for recommendation to release for public comment in June 2020. The document provides a vision for development of the regional transportation system based upon the outcomes and principles expressed in the regional development guide, *Thrive MSP 2040* (adopted May 2014). The document also meets federal requirements for performance-based metropolitan transportation plans, by including transportation system goals, objectives, strategies and performance measures to achieve the desired outcomes for the regional transportation system.

COMMITTEE COMMENTS AND ACTION: At its April 9, 2020, meeting, the TAC Planning Committee voted unanimously to recommend the release of the draft update of the *2040 Transportation Policy Plan* for public review and comment.

ROUTING

| TO | ACTION REQUESTED | DATE COMPLETED |
|--|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| TAC Planning Committee | Review & Recommend | April 9, 2020 |
| Technical Advisory Committee | Review & Recommend | |
| Transportation Advisory Board | Review & Recommend | |
| Metropolitan Council Transportation Committee | Review & Recommend | |
| Metropolitan Council | Review & Adopt | |