

**ACTION TRANSMITTAL No. 2021-24**

**DATE:** May 26, 2021

**TO:** Technical Advisory Committee

**FROM:** TAC Funding and Programming Committee

**PREPARED BY:** Joe Barbeau, Senior Planner (651-602-1705)

**SUBJECT:** Adoption of the Draft 2022-2025 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), pending public comment.

**REQUESTED ACTION:** The Metropolitan Council requests that the Transportation Advisory Board (TAB) adopt the draft 2022-2025 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

**RECOMMENDED MOTION:** That the Technical Advisory Committee recommend that TAB adopt the draft 2022-2025 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), with consideration for public comments.

**BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE OF ACTION:** The Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is a four-year list of federally funded transportation projects required for all metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs). The TIP must include all projects funded with federal transportation funds along with all regionally significant projects. Federal regulations require that a TIP be developed at least every four years. The Metropolitan Council revises its TIP every year in conjunction with the Minnesota Department of Transportation's State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). The draft 2022-2025 TIP and its development process will meet applicable federal requirements once the public input process is complete. The public comment period is scheduled to run from May 23 to July 6.

Following the receipt of over 200 comments during review of the 2021-2024 TIP in the summer of 2020, the public comment period is being moved roughly one month ahead of the usual schedule. This will enable staff to adequately respond to a high volume of comments. One comment from that process being acted upon is to address racial equity. Council staff is exploring options for conducting an environmental justice analysis of the TIP beginning with the 2023-06 TIP. TAB is scheduled to release the TIP for public comment on May 19, 2021 (i.e., the day before this meeting). The Funding & Programming Committee and TAC are asked to recommend the TIP, pending public comment, for TAB's August 18, 2021, meeting. This process differs slightly from past years when the technical committees recommended release of the draft TIP for public comment.

The 2022-2025 TIP approval schedule is as follows:

- May 19, 2021 – TAB releases draft TIP for public review
- July 6, 2021 – Public review/comment period ends
- August 18, 2021 – TAB considers public comments and approval of the final TIP
- September 13, 2021 – Transportation Committee recommends concurrence with the TIP to the Metropolitan Council
- September 22, 2021 – Metropolitan Council concurrence with TAB approval of TIP
- September/October 2021 – MnDOT inclusion of TIP into State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP)
- November/December 2021 – USDOT approves Minnesota STIP

The 2022-2025 TIP includes projects valued at approximately \$5.2 billion for highway, freight transit, bicycle, and pedestrian projects. Roughly 16% of federal funding is from the Regional Solicitation. The sources of funds over the four years are summarized as follows:

- Total – \$5.2 Billion
  - Federal Highway – \$1.3 Billion
  - Federal Transit – \$1.5 Billion
  - Property Tax and State Taxes – \$1.8 Billion
  - Trunk Highway – \$530 Million

**RELATIONSHIP TO REGIONAL POLICY:** Federal law requires that all transportation projects that will be partially or fully 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 Metropolitan Council’s responsibility to adopt and amend the TIP according to these four requirements.

**COMMITTEE COMMENTS AND ACTION:** At its May 20, 2021, meeting, the Funding & Programming Committee unanimously recommended adoption of the draft 2022-2025 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), with consideration for public comments.

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**ROUTING**

<b>TO</b>	<b>ACTION REQUESTED</b>	<b>DATE SCHEDULED / COMPLETED</b>
TAC Funding & Programming Committee	Review & Recommend	5/20/2021
Technical Advisory Committee	Review & Recommend	6/2/2021
Transportation Advisory Board	Review & Recommend	8/18/2021
Transportation Committee	Review & Recommend	9/13/2021
Metropolitan Council	Review & Adopt	9/22/2021