

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

---

**ACTION TRANSMITTAL 2021-26**

**DATE:** August 25, 2021

**TO:** TAC

**PREPARED BY:** David Burns, Planning Analyst, [david.burns@metc.state.mn.us](mailto:david.burns@metc.state.mn.us)  
Steve Peterson, Manager of Highway Planning,  
[steven.peterson@metc.state.mn.us](mailto:steven.peterson@metc.state.mn.us)

**SUBJECT:** Additions to the A-Minor Arterial Network

**REQUESTED ACTION:** Recommend adoption of the additions to the A-Minor Arterial Network

**RECOMMENDED MOTION:** That the Technical Advisory Committee adopt the subclassifications to the A-Minor Arterial Network

**BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE OF ACTION:** MnDOT, in coordination with the Council, FHWA, and local cities and counties, recently completed a comprehensive update to the functional classification system within the Council's planning area. These changes were recommended as part of Action Transmittal 2021-25. However, because the A-Minor subclassifications are unique to the Council and are not part of the official FHWA functional classification system, the Council is responsible for designating the subclasses of A-Minors. The Council has delegated decision-making authority for Minor Arterial changes to the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC). This action will designate newly added A-Minor Arterials (from Action Transmittal 2021-25) as one of the following four A-Minor subclassifications:

1. A-Minor Relievers: these roadways run parallel to and supplement capacity for congested principal arterials
2. A-Minor Augmentors: roadways that supplement that principal arterial system in densely developed areas
3. A-Minor Expanders: roadways that supplement the principal arterials system in less densely developed areas
4. A-Minor Connectors: these roadways provide safe, direct connections between rural centers and to principal arterials in rural areas

Overall there was a total net reclassification change that resulted in an overall decrease of 17 miles of the A-Minor system, representing a 1% decrease in the number of the A-Minor Arterials. (Note that this is the net change; there were both additions and subtractions from the A-Minor system.) The project team identified several changes to the Other Arterial (B-Minor) system, many of which were reclassified down to Collectors. Table 1 outlines the changes to the Minor Arterial system, including to each of the four A-Minor subclassifications.

**Table 1: Proposed Changes to the A-Minor System**

Existing Functional Class			Proposed Functional Class			Change
Minor Arterial	2,437	100%	Minor Arterial	2,300	100%	-6%
A-Minor All (% of Minor Arterial system)	1,946	80%	A-Minor (% of Minor Arterial system)	1,929	84%	1%
Augmentor	195		Augmentor	202		4%
Reliever	431		Reliever	434		1%
Expander	720		Expander	719		-0%
Connector	599		Connector	574		-4%
B-Minor (% of Minor Arterial system)	491	20%	B-Minor (% of Minor Arterial system)	371	16%	-24%

Maps depicting the changes to the A-Minor network are included in Attachment 1. Council staff worked with MnDOT staff in assigning the subclassifications (Relievers, Augmentors, Expanders, or Connectors), based on land use and roadway classification in the immediate area.

**STAFF ANALYSIS:** The proposed changes to the A-Minor system more closely reflect the characteristics of the roadways. All changes were identified and agreed upon by technical staff from throughout the region.

**COMMITTEE COMMENTS AND ACTION:** During its August 12, 2021 meeting, the TAC Planning Committee unanimously recommended approval to adopt the subclassifications to the A-Minor network.

**ROUTING**

TO	ACTION REQUESTED	DATE SCHEDULED/COMPLETED
TAC Planning Committee	Review & Recommend	8/12/21
Technical Advisory Committee	Review & Adopt	9/1/21