

Agenda

TAC Funding and Programming Committee



Meeting Date: April 21, 2022

Time: 1:30 PM

Location: Virtual

Notice:

The Metropolitan Council Chair has determined it is not practical or prudent to conduct in-person meetings in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Accordingly, committee members will participate in this meeting via telephone or interactive technology and the meeting will be conducted under Minnesota Statutes section 13D.021 at the date and time stated above. We encourage you to monitor the meeting remotely.

Public participation:

If you have comments, we encourage members of the public to email us at public.info@metc.state.mn.us.

You may pre-register to speak at a virtual public meeting of the TAC Funding and Programming by emailing us at public.info@metc.state.mn.us.

Call to Order

1. Roll call
2. Approval of the Agenda
3. Approval of March 17, 2022 TAC Funding and Programming minutes - roll call

Public Comment on Committee Business

TAB Report

Business

1. 2022-19: St. Paul Vento Elementary Safe Routes to School Scope Change - roll call

Information

1. IJJA Funding and Regional Solicitation (Molly McCartney, MnDOT and Steve Peterson, MTS)
2. 2022 Regional Solicitation Scoring Committees (Joe Barbeau, MTS)
3. Virtual Meetings, Live Streaming, and Potential Schedule Change (Bethany Brandt-Sargent, MTS)

Other Business

Adjournment

Council Contact:

Bethany Brandt-Sargent, Senior Planner
Bethany.Brandt-Sargent@metc.state.mn.us
651-602-1725

Minutes

TAC Funding and Programming Committee



Meeting Date: March 17, 2022

Time: 1:30 PM

Location: Virtual

Members Present:

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bloomington - Karl Keel<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lakeville - Paul Oehme (Acting Chair)<input type="checkbox"/> Eden Prairie - Robert Ellis<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fridley - Brandon Brodhag<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Maple Grove - Ken Ashfeld<input type="checkbox"/> Plymouth - Michael Thompson (Chair)<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minneapolis - Nathan Koster<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> St. Paul - Anne Weber<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met Council - Cole Hiniker<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Metro Transit - Scott Janowiak | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TAB Coordinator - Elaine Koutsoukos<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MnDOT - Molly McCartney<input type="checkbox"/> MnDOT Metro District State Aid - Colleen Brown<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MnDOT Bike/Ped - Mike Samuelson<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MPCA - Innocent Eyoh<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DNR - Nancy Spooner<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Suburban Transit Assoc - Aaron Bartling | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anoka Co - Jerry Auge<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Carver Co - Darin Mielke<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dakota Co - Jenna Fabish<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hennepin Co - Jason Pieper<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ramsey Co - Scott Mareck<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Scott Co - Craig Jensen<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wash Co - Joe Ayers-Johnson <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> = present, <input type="checkbox"/> = absent</p> |
|---|--|---|

Call to Order

A quorum being present, Acting Committee Chair Oehme called the regular meeting of the TAC Funding and Programming Committee to order at 1:32 p.m.

Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was approved without a vote. A vote is only needed if changes are made to the agenda.

Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Keel and seconded by Pieper to approve the minutes of the January 20, 2022 regular meeting of the TAC Funding and Programming Committee. **Motion carried** unanimously via roll call.

Public Comment on Committee Business

There were no public comments.

TAB Report

Koutsoukos reported on the March 16, 2022 TAB meeting.

Business

1. 2022-13: Southwest LRT TIP Funding Increase (Joe Barbeau, MTS)

Joe Barbeau from MTS presented Metro Transit's request for an amendment to the 2022-2025 TIP to increase the 2022 cost of the Southwest LRT (SWLRT), which would increase funding to the project by \$60 million, including a \$12.5 million local match. Nick Thompson of Metro Transit discussed the project and issues the SWLRT, including an additional station, barrier protection from the railroad, and the Kenilworth corridor tunnel. Thompson also discussed the negotiations with the construction firm. The project will require an additional 34 months and will increase in cost up to \$500 million. Thompson discussed the sources of additional funding.

Keel asked whether new funding is being requested through the sources TAB oversees. Thompson noted this is federal formula funding for capital investments. Eyoh asked whether more money will need to be allocated. Thompson replied that this amendment is the first step but that additional funding needs to be identified so there may be future TIP amendments and that as a regionally significant project it will be reflected in the TIP.

It was moved by McCartney and seconded by Spooner-Mueller to recommend approval of the Southwest LRT TIP amendment to the 2022-2025 TIP to increase the cost of the SWLRT 2022 project by \$50 million. **Motion carried** unanimously.

2. 2022-15: I-94 East Metro Freight Project TIP Amendment (Joe Barbeau, MTS)

Joe Barbeau presented MnDOT's TIP amendment request to the 2022-2025 TIP to add a project line funding a new auxiliary lane from I494/I694/I94 in Oakdale to Washington County Highway 19 in Woodbury and to add a guardrail and noise wall to its associated existing I-94 maintenance project located between Oakdale and the St. Croix River. This is a regionally significant project so the request cannot be streamlined and will be released for public comment by TAB next month. After the public comment, TAB will consider recommendation for approval. McCartney noted this project recently went through a TPP amendment process. Eyoh said that while a new air quality conformity determination is not needed, the applicant should address air quality and traffic concerns during construction.

It was moved by Mareck and seconded by Eyoh, to recommend approval of an amendment to the 2022-2025 TIP to add a project line funding a new auxiliary lane from I494/I694/I94 in Oakdale to Washington County Highway 19 in Woodbury (SP # 8282-132F) and to add a guardrail and noise wall to MnDOT's associated I-94 maintenance project located between Oakdale and the St. Croix River (SP # 8282-132) for the purpose of release for public comment.

Motion carried unanimously.

Information

1. 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program Update Schedule

Joe Barbeau of MTS discussed the [2023 to 2026 Transportation Improvement Program \(TIP\) update schedule](#). Barbeau stated the draft TIP is expected to be available in May, with a public comment period following, and TAB approval in August with Council approval in September. The TIP will go through a federal review process after Council approval.

2. Travel Demand Management Project Update

Theresa Cain of Metro Transit discussed Metro Transit's their [Travel Demand Management Project](#). Cain discussed Metro Transit's employer and institutional outreach and highlighted some successes as well as upcoming projects.

Hiniker asked about the role of telework in this project and whether new strategies are being investigated. Cain noted that Metro Transit and the Transportation Management Organizations (TMO)s are regularly in contact with companies to connect them with resources and experts.

Hiniker also discussed MTS's upcoming travel demand management (TDM) study and MnDOT's vehicle miles traveled and congestion research project.

Keel asked about the successes of TDM compared with more traditional project investments and whether this will be examined in the upcoming TDM study. Hiniker replied that the study will explore quantifiable benefits, though he cautioned that it is difficult to compare TDM investments to other investments.

Other Business

Acting Chair Oehme noted that the Transportation Advisory Board will be returning to in-person meetings. Joe Barbeau of MTS responded that the May meeting may be in person, but that the Met Council's Office of General Counsel is still reviewing the laws and evaluating the potential for hybrid meetings.

Adjournment

Business completed; the meeting adjourned at 2:27 p.m.

Council Contact:

Bethany Brandt-Sargent, Senior Planner
Bethany.Brandt-Sargent@metc.state.mn.us
651-602-1725



Action Transmittal

Transportation Advisory Board



Meeting Date: April 21, 2022

Date: April 14, 2022

Action Transmittal: 2022-19

Scope Change Request for City of Saint Paul Bruce Vento Elementary School Safe Routes to School Project

To: TAC Funding & Programming Committee

Prepared By: Joe Barbeau, Senior Planner, 651-602-1705

Requested Action

The City of Saint Paul requests a scope change to remove the connection from the Gateway State Trail to Arkwright Street on its Bruce Vento Elementary School Safe Routes to School project (SP # 164-591-004).

Recommended Motion

That the Funding & Programming Committee recommend that TAB approve the City of Saint Paul's scope change request to remove the connection from the Gateway State Trail to Arkwright Street on its Bruce Vento Elementary School Safe Routes to School project (SP # 164-591-004).

Summary

This requested scope change involves removing a small connection to the Gateway State Trail along that is included in the City of Saint Paul's Bruce Vento Elementary School project. The applicant intends to complete this element as part of a local project. The cost of this element is about \$23,000. Given this small amount and the fact that the entire project will still be completed, committees will discuss whether any federal funding should be removed.

Background and Purpose

The City of Saint Paul was awarded \$842,528 in the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) category of the 2018 Regional Solicitation to provide a bicycle connection from the Gateway State Trail to Bruce Vento Elementary School along Arkwright Street. Also included in the original scope are four small sidewalk gap infills along Arkwright Street and intersection improvements along Case Avenue, which intersects Arkwright Street adjacent to the school. The project is programmed for 2023. As shown in Figure 1 of the attached memo, the project scope includes a short connection between the Gateway State Trail and Arkwright Street. The City of Saint Paul is asking that this connection be removed from the project, noting that it will be completed by Minnesota Department of Natural Resources as part of its 2022 project reconstructing a portion of the Gateway State Trail.

Relationship to Regional Policy

Projects that receive funding through the Regional Solicitation process are subject to the regional scope change policy. The purpose of this policy is to ensure that the project is designed and constructed according to the plans and intent described in the original application. The scope change policy allows

project sponsors to adjust their projects as needed while still providing substantially the same benefits described in their original project applications.

Staff Analysis

Approval/Denial of the Scope Change: While removal of this short piece of trail would be detrimental to the project, the applicant indicates that this will be completed one year early by another applicant. Recent precedent would point to approval.

Funding: Recent history shows that retention of the full federal award is typical when removed elements are being completed by other another project. The applicant cites \$23,000 (\$18,400 federal) as the cost of the project element being removed from the original scope The committee should consider whether it is necessary to remove this amount versus allowing the applicant to retain this amount.

Routing

| To | Action Requested | Date Completed |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| TAC Funding & Programming Committee | Review & Recommend | April 21, 2022 |
| Technical Advisory Committee | Review & Recommend | May 4, 2022 |
| Transportation Advisory Board | Review and Adopt | May 18, 2022 |





March 10, 2022

TO: Funding and Programming Committee;
Michael Thompson, Chair, Funding and Programming Committee

FROM: Jary Lee, Project Manager, Department of Public Works

SUBJECT: Formal Scope Change of SP 164-591-004 Bruce Vento Trail

This memo discusses the proposed change in scope to Bruce Vento Elementary Safe Routes to School project (SP 164-591-044) in Saint Paul. All elements of the original scope will be delivered, but by two different agencies and as part of two different projects. The project scope generally includes construction of bumpouts along portions of Arkwright Street and Case Avenue, sidewalk in fill in the neighborhood surrounding the school, and implementation of a bicycle facility along Arkwright Street.

While the majority of the proposed 2023 project to be delivered by the City of Saint Paul is consistent with the scope detailed in the 2018 Regional Solicitation application, a short segment of trail connecting the Gateway State Trail and Arkwright Street is proposed to be removed from the scope of SP 164-591-044. Instead, this same trail segment will be constructed by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MnDNR) as part of a 2022 project nearby to reconstruct a portion of the Gateway State Trail. Given the scope and timeline of the DNR’s project, it is more desirable for the DNR to deliver this portion of the scope of work rather than the City of Saint Paul.

All original project elements will be constructed, and there will be no change in benefit to the community from the original scope. See Table 1 for a summary. Figure 1 shows the trail segment proposed to be removed from the scope of SP 164-591-044 and instead constructed by the MnDNR. Figure 2 shows all project elements.

Attached to the end of this memo is the required Funding Data for Scope Change Request document.

[Table 1. Project element delivery summary](#)

| 2018 application project element(s) | Project element delivered by | Construction year |
|---|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Sidewalk gap in fill | City of Saint Paul | 2023 |
| Arkwright St and Case Ave curb extensions | City of Saint Paul | 2023 |
| Arkwright bikeway between Cayuga St and Gateway Trail | City of Saint Paul | 2023 |
| Trail segment connecting Arkwright St and Gateway Trail | Minnesota DNR | 2022 |

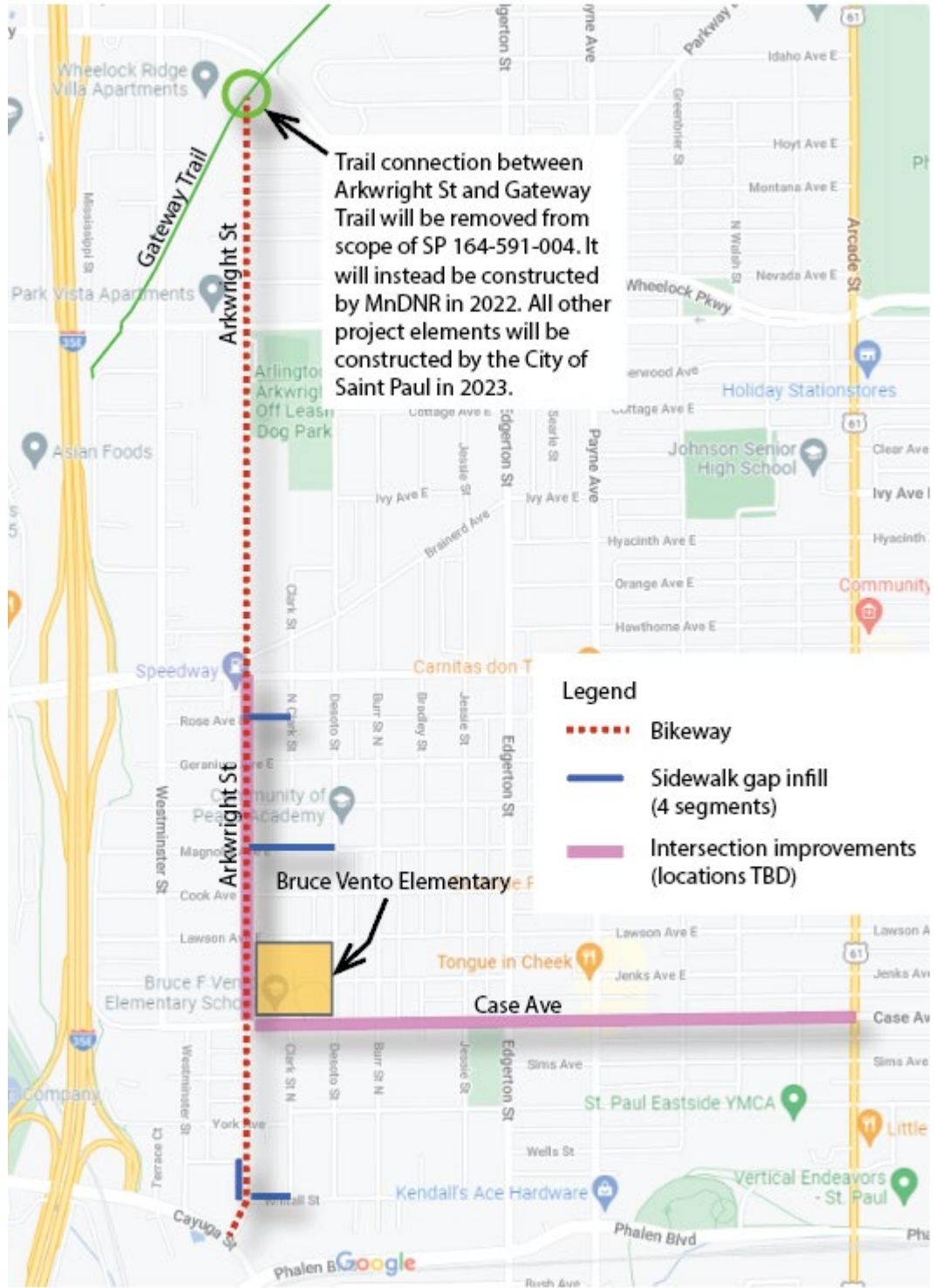


Figure 1. Trail segment proposed removed from SP 164-591-044





Figure 2. All project elements – consistent with 2018 application





ATTACHMENT 1: FUNDING DATA FOR SCOPE CHANGE REQUEST

Original Application:

| | |
|--|-----------------------|
| Regional Solicitation Year | 2018 |
| Application Funding Category | Safe Routes to School |
| HSIP Solicitation? | No |
| Application Total Project Cost | \$1,053,160 |
| Federal Award | \$842,528 |
| Application Federal Percentage of Total Project Cost | 80% |

Project Elements Being Removed:

| Element | Original Application Cost |
|--|---------------------------|
| Trail segment connecting Arkwright St. and Gateway Trail | \$23,000 |

New Project Elements:

N/A