



# Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-Saving Transportation (PROTECT) Funding



Information Item

May 2023



# Approach to PROTECT Funds

- New Federal Program to Improve the Resiliency of the Transportation System
- MnDOT providing 30% of its statewide share to the Area Transportation Partnerships (ATPs) including the Met Council
- 2025–2027: Recommendation Today
- Incorporate language into the 2024 solicitation application to identify new projects for 2028 and 2029
- Explore additional opportunities during the Reg. Solicitation Evaluation for the 2026 solicitation cycle and beyond (2030+)



# PROTECT Funding by Year

	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031
PROTECT Funding	\$6,278,400	\$6,278,400	\$4,708,800	\$3,531,600	2024 Regional Solicitation Cycle		2026 Regional Solicitation Cycle	
Approach	Existing Projects	\$14,518,800 for Existing or New Projects			New Projects		New Projects	

- PROTECT funds in 2024 were inserted into the draft TIP and will be used on existing Regional Solicitation projects given the TIP timelines/rules.
- TAC F&P requested 2025-2027 PROTECT options that could explore unfunded projects from the last Regional Solicitation given that the years line up with the last solicitation.



# Eligible Elements



## Elements Identified in Current Regional Solicitation Projects

- Storm sewer
- Ponding
- Erosion and landscaping
- Retaining walls
- Bridges over floodplains
- Road realignments out of floodplains

# 2025-2027: Option 1

## Use on Projects/Reduce Overprogramming

Similar to the approach for 2024 funds, use the PROTECT funding on eligible project elements within recently selected Regional Solicitation projects.

	2025	2026	2027
Regional Solicitation Starting Balance by Year	\$(11,077,234)	\$(15,233,627)	\$(19,442,095)
PROTECT Funding by Year: Total of \$14,518,800 Available	\$6,278,400	\$4,708,800	\$3,531,600
Use PROTECT on Eligible 2022 Projects Elements Results in Reduced Overprogramming:	\$(4,798,834)	\$(10,524,827)	\$(15,910,495)
End Regional Solicitation Balance:			

*There is also \$8M of Carbon Reduction Program funds in 2026 and \$6.5M in 2027 that have not been programmed.*

# Impact of Program Year Shifts

- Option 1 is less viable of an option if both program year shifts are recommended for approval.
- In 2025 and 2026, investment in new projects is needed as there is no longer overprogramming to pay down.
- In 2027, overprogramming remains.

# 2025-2027: Option 1

## Use on Projects/Reduce Overprogramming

	2025	2026	2027
Regional Solicitation Starting Balance by Year	\$(11,077,234)	\$(15,233,627)	\$(19,442,095)
Impact of Program Year Shifts, if they are both Approved	+\$7,000,000	\$(7,0000) +\$25,902,640	No Changes
Regional Solicitation Balance After Program Year Shifts	(4,077,234)	\$3,669,013	\$(19,442,095)
PROTECT Funding by Year: Total of \$14,518,800 Available	\$6,278,400	\$4,708,800	\$3,531,600
Use PROTECT on Eligible 2022 Projects Elements Creates a Surplus in 2025 and 2026 End Balance:	\$2,201,166	\$8,377,813	\$(15,910,495)

*There is also \$8M of Carbon Reduction Program funds in 2026 and \$6.5M in 2027 that have not been programmed.*

# 2025-2027: Option 2

## Use on a Mix of Existing Projects/Reduce Overprogramming and New Projects

The next unfunded project from 3 of the 12 application categories in the 2022 Regional Solicitation had eligible PROTECT elements as follows:

Application Category	Project	Eligible Elements	Eligible Costs	Total Project Request
Spot Mobility and Safety	Hennepin Co Rockford Rd Project	Storm sewer	\$200,000	\$1,624,000
Strategic Capacity	Carver Co Highway 5 Lake Minnewashta and Arboretum Access and Mobility Project	Raising roadway out of the floodplain & reconnecting aquatic habitats	\$10,000,000	\$10,000,000
Roadway Reconstruction	Washington Co CR 19A/100 <sup>th</sup> St Realignment	Storm sewer	\$7,000,000	\$7,000,000
Total				\$18,624,000



# 2025-2027: Option 2

## Use on a Mix of Existing Projects/Reduce Overprogramming and New Projects

- There is \$14,518,800 of PROTECT Funds available for 2025-2027.
- 2A: If the program year shifts are not approved, then use up to \$14.5M on eligible elements within the 3 identified unfunded projects with PROTECT elements.
- 2B: If both program year extensions are approved, then this creates a surplus of \$3,669,013 in 2026, so a total of up to \$18,187,813 is available. This surplus could be used to help fund projects now or be shifted into the next funding cycle.
- The total funding requests for the three unfunded projects is \$18,624,000, so one, two, or all three projects (i.e., Hennepin County, Carver County, and Washington County) could be funded with available funds.
- Using the PROTECT funding on roadways projects will impact the modal balance in favor of roadways by one to two percent, depending on the number of new projects added.



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