

ACTION TRANSMITTAL No. 2018-24

DATE: March 2, 2018
TO: TAC Planning Committee
PREPARED BY: Amy Vennewitz, MTS Deputy Director (651-602-1058)
SUBJECT: Draft 2040 Transportation Policy Plan 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 January 2015. Under federal requirements the plan must be updated at least every four years to reflect current demographic and fiscal forecasts and expected major transportation projects. In addition, this plan update will incorporate the results of planning and corridor studies that have concluded since the last plan was adopted. The Council kicked off the update to the 2040 Transportation Policy Plan in January 2017, with the expectation that the plan update be adopted in fall 2018.

MTS staff have worked with agency and local government stakeholders since February 2017 to propose plan changes and edits, and receive feedback, comments and additional suggestions on the proposed changes. Stakeholders have been represented at monthly meetings with the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Planning Committee, and through additional presentations and discussions with Transportation Advisory Board (TAB), TAC, the Council and its advisory committees including the Land Use Advisory Committee, Equity Advisory Committee and Transportation Accessibility Advisory Committee, among others. Throughout the summer and fall Council staff met with representatives of counties, cities, MnDOT, MAC, MPCA, transit providers and the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community to review and discuss the proposed changes. Council members and staff have also met in work sessions with the metropolitan county boards, and Wright and Sherburne county representatives and Minneapolis and St. Paul city councils to discuss the plan update. During the public comment and review period substantial outreach to stakeholders will also take place.

The full draft 2040 TPP update was released for TAC Planning review on December 22nd and the plan Overview on February 1st. Additional changes have been incorporated due to the comments received and a revised draft plan update incorporating additional changes was released on March 2nd. This version of the plan update will be reviewed and recommended by TAC and TAB in April.

Simultaneously, MnDOT is in the process of reviewing projects proposals submitted for Corridors of Commerce funding provided in the 2017 legislative session. It is anticipated that the metropolitan area will receive approximately \$200 million of this funding. The selection of these projects is expected in late April and will need to be coordinated with other project funding from the 2017 session and any potential funding from the 2018 legislative session. Since the selected projects are likely to be regionally significant projects they must be included in the draft TPP update that is released for public review and comment.

Staff requests that TAB and TAC approve release of the draft 2040 TPP update with the understanding that any newly selected and funded major projects will also be incorporated into the draft plan prior to action by the Council to release the draft for public comment. Information items describing any added funding and projects will be provided to the TAB and TAC in June. The public comment and review will take place throughout July and into mid-August. Final recommendation by TAB will be in September and Council adoption in October 2018. The proposed schedule for the full 2040 TPP update review, revision and adoption is attached.

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 four years. The draft update to the 2040 TPP fulfills these requirements.

STAFF ANALYSIS: The draft update to the 2040 TPP is proposed for review and recommendation for release for public comment. 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.

ROUTING

TO	ACTION REQUESTED	DATE COMPLETED
TAC Planning or Funding & Programming Committee	Review & Recommend	
Technical Advisory Committee	Review & Recommend	
Transportation Advisory Board	Review & Recommend	
Metropolitan Council Transportation Committee	Review & Recommend	
Metropolitan Council	Review & Adopt	

2040 Transportation Policy Plan Update Schedule

March 8	TAC Planning recommends draft TPP update release for public comment
April 4	TAC recommends draft TPP update release for public comment
April 18	TAB recommends draft TPP update release for public comment
By April 30	Receive Corridors of Commerce funding results
May	Incorporate additional major projects and funding into draft TPP update due to Corridors of Commerce funding, and other legislative funding changes
June 6	TAC information item on additional projects and changes to draft TPP update
June 11	Council Transportation Committee recommends draft TPP update be released for public review and comment
June 20	TAB information item on additional projects and changes to draft TPP update
June 27	Council recommends draft TPP update be released for public comment
June 28 – August 11	Public review and comment period (45 days)
July 23	Public hearing at Council Transportation Committee
Mid August – September 7	Prepare public comment report and revise TPP responding to public comment
September 19	TAB information item on public comments and revisions to the draft TPP; TAB recommends adoption of updated 2040 TPP to Council
September 24	Transportation Committee recommends adoption of updated 2040 TPP
October 10	Council adopts updated 2040 TPP