Regional Bicycle Barriers & Barrier Crossing Areas Update Process

TAC Planning Committee
March 11, 2021

BACKGROUND

Regional Bicycle Barriers and Regional Solicitation

• Regional Bicycle Barriers Study completed in 2017
• Regional Bicycle Barriers and Barrier Crossing Areas established in 2018 update to Transportation Policy Plan
• 2020 Regional Solicitation added regional barriers and barrier crossing areas as alternative criteria for Multiuse Trails/Bike Facilities funding applications
BACKGROUND

Regional Bicycle Barriers

• Introduced in 2018 Update to Transportation Policy Plan as region’s most significant physical barriers to daily bicycle travel

• Defined to include:
  ➢ Freeways and Expressways
  ➢ Railroad Corridors
  ➢ Secondary & Third-Order Streams

Regional Bicycle Barriers Map
BACKGROUND

Regional Bicycle Barrier Crossing Areas

- Also introduced in 2018 Update to Transportation Policy Plan and updated in 2020 TPP

- Barrier Crossing Areas were prioritized based on four data factors
  - Network Connectivity
  - Social/Economic Equity
  - Bicycle Trip Demand
  - Safety & Existing Conditions

- Barrier Crossing Areas define prioritized segments of each barrier type indicating where future improvements may be most needed

Regional Bicycle Barrier Crossing Area Maps

1. Rail & Stream Crossing Areas
2. Freeway/Expressway Crossing Areas
Agency Review Process

On Change Request Application Forms:

• Agencies will be asked to review regional bicycle barriers and barrier crossing areas in their communities on interactive online map

• Based on those reviews, agencies can request the following:
  1. Addition of a **new regional bicycle barrier** consistent with the definitions provided
  2. Addition of a **planned bicycle facility improvement location** that crosses a regional bicycle barrier and is not currently included within a prioritized **regional bicycle barrier crossing area**

Application Process

What are the Steps?

1. Notification of period to submit updates to regional bicycle barriers will be posted on Met Council web site and distributed via e-mail.
2. Council staff review submitted update requests for consistency with stated barrier definitions; determines priority tier for new planned barrier crossing locations
3. Review staff recommendations on submitted requests with Bicycle-Pedestrian Peer Discussion Group
4. Present accepted changes through TAC/TAB process for developing the 2022 Regional Solicitation application
Application Process

What are the Steps?

5. TAB accepts changes and updated map prior to releasing draft Regional Solicitation application packet for public comment

6. Map updates will also require a TPP administrative modification; public comment will be afforded through Regional Solicitation public comment process

7. Final maps presented for approval by TAB and Met Council

Regional Barriers Update Schedule

- Publish notification to propose additions Target: 4/23
- Deadline to submit applications Target: 5/28
- Council staff review applications June
- Review recommendations with BPPDG June/July
- TAC/TAB approval process for updated maps July/Aug
- Public Comment period for Regional Solicitation/TPP modification Sept/Oct
- Final maps approved by TAB & Met Council Dec/Jan