

# Action Transmittal

TAC Planning Committee



**Committee Meeting Date:** August 10, 2023

**Date:** August 4, 2023

## Action Transmittal: 2023-44

2024 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)

**To:** TAC Planning Committee

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### Requested Action

Adoption of the 2024 Unified Planning Work Program.

### Recommended Motion

That the TAC Planning Committee recommend adoption of the 2024 Unified Planning Work Program (attached).

### Background and Purpose

The Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) serves as the Council's application for USDOT transportation planning funds. It is required that every metropolitan planning organization (MPO) submit the UPWP for consideration by the USDOT on an annual basis. The UPWP is prepared annually and describes the transportation planning activities that the Council will conduct for the coming year. Participants in the UPWP include the Metropolitan Council, the Minnesota Department of Transportation, the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, the Metropolitan Airports Commission, and local cities, counties, and other stakeholders.

The UPWP includes activities required by federal regulation that address planning priorities of the metropolitan area. The document identifies budgeted expenditures, funding sources, and the allocation of staff resources for the transportation planning activities of the MPO. Projects with Metropolitan Council participation include staff hours and consultant costs that detail how the estimated \$5.6 million of federal planning money will be spent, along with a required 20 percent local match to the federal funds. In 2024, the Council is committing to use federal planning funds and local match to support the transportation planning program and continue the update to the 2050 Regional Development Guide and 2050 Transportation Policy Plan.

Many of the tasks described are required by state or federal law and are ongoing activities. Examples include staff support of the TAC/TAB committee process, the preparation of the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) and support of the Regional Solicitation. Other tasks are focused studies that help to move forward the region's transportation planning process and fulfill the vision as outlined in the Transportation Policy Plan. The 2024 UPWP includes over \$2 million in planned consulting costs to complete these studies.

The draft 2024 UPWP is attached. The document was sent to MnDOT, USDOT, and the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency for their feedback on August 4, 2023. It is anticipated that minor edits may occur based upon comments received by these agencies. Additionally, recent

federal law requires that Complete Streets activities be documented, and an associated budget be completed. This budget will be included prior to adoption of the 2024 UPWP.

The draft 2024 UPWP will be released for public review and comment from August 14 through September 1. A summary of comments received will be presented to the Transportation Advisory Board at its September 20 meeting.

### Relationship to Regional Policy

The UPWP is a federally required description and documentation of proposed transportation and transportation-related planning activities in the metropolitan area. The activities include both activities required for the MPO to operate as well as projects that reflect the regional transportation vision.

### Routing

To	Action Requested	Date
TAC Planning Committee	Review & Recommend	August 10, 2023
Technical Advisory Committee	Review & Recommend	September 6, 2023
Transportation Advisory Board	Review & Recommend	September 20, 2023
Metropolitan Council Transportation Committee	Review & Recommend	September 25, 2023
Metropolitan Council	Review & Adopt	October 11, 2023

