

# T Transportation Committee

Meeting date: December 10, 2012

For the Council Meeting of December 12, 2012

ADVISORY INFORMATION	
<b>Date:</b>	<b>November 30, 2012</b>
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>2013-2016 TIP Amendment to modify the Lake Street Access to I-35W project (SP#027-603-049; TAB Action 2012-36)</b>
<b>District(s), Member(s):</b>	<b>7 – Cunningham</b>
<b>Policy/Legal Reference:</b>	<b>TAB Action</b>
<b>Staff Prepared/Presented:</b>	<b>Arlene McCarthy, Director (651-602-1754)          Mark Filipi, Manager, MTS Technical Services (651-602-1725)          Kevin Roggenbuck, TAB Coordinator (651-602-1728)          Heidi Schallberg, Senior Planner (651-602-1721)</b>
<b>Division/Department:</b>	<b>Metropolitan Transportation Services</b>

## Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council concur with the Transportation Advisory Board (TAB) action to amend the 2013-2016 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to modify the Lake Street Access to I-35W project in Minneapolis (SP#027-603-049).

## Background

On August 17, 2012, the federal government announced the immediate release of earmark funds from federal fiscal year 2003-2006 appropriations acts. This release authorized the states, subject to FHWA review, to reallocate unobligated earmark funding from these federal fiscal years. These funds are available to be reprogrammed on other Title 23 and Title 49 eligible projects. If these released funds are not obligated before December 31, 2012, the remaining federal funds will be redistributed to states that met the December 31, 2012, deadline.

In 2003, Hennepin County received an \$8,941,500 federal appropriation for the I-35W & Lake Street Access Project in Minneapolis. To date none of the funds have been obligated. The county worked with the Minnesota Department of Transportation to develop a means by which the appropriation may be obligated by December 31, 2012. The federal funds from the Lake Street appropriation will be re-programmed on two projects to ensure the federal funds are obligated before the deadline of December 31, 2012. (The other project is addressed in Business Item No. 2012-371 SW.) The Lake Street Access to I-35W project will retain \$2,000,000 of the original appropriation for use for preliminary engineering in this amendment.

Project Description	Federal Funds (earmark)
SP#027-603-049: MN061 – Lake Street Access to I-35W, Minneapolis – Preliminary engineering	\$2,000,000

**Rationale**

The Transportation Advisory Board approves formal amendments to the Transportation Improvement Program, and the Metropolitan Council concurs with the action of the TAB. All transportation projects that receive federal funding must be included in the TIP. This project is exempt from air quality analysis, is consistent with the Transportation Policy Plan, and does not affect fiscal constraint.

**Funding**

The preliminary engineering is fully funded with \$2,000,000 of recently-released 100% federal earmark funding. The Council and other project partners will continue to seek funding to complete the I-35W and Lake Street Access Project.

**Known Support / Opposition**

No known opposition