

T Transportation Committee
Meeting date: September 24, 2012

Metropolitan Council meeting: October 10, 2012

ADVISORY INFORMATION

Date: September 19, 2012
Subject: CTIB 2013 Project Grant Applications Consistency with the 2030 TPP
District(s), Member(s): All
Policy/Legal Reference: M.S. 297A.992; Regional Transportation Policy Plan
Staff Prepared/Presented: Arlene McCarthy, Director 651-602-1754
Amy Vennewitz, Dep. Director 651-602-1058
Division/Department: Metropolitan Transportation Services

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council finds the eight project grant applications (summarized in the Attachment) for CY 2013 Counties Transit Improvement Board (CTIB) funding to be consistent with the Council's 2030 Transportation Policy Plan adopted November 2010.

Background

The 2008 state legislation which authorized the quarter cent sales tax for transitways capital and operating purposes specified that a grant award for a transit project located within the metropolitan area may be funded only after the Metropolitan Council reviews the project for consistency with the transit portion of the Transportation Policy Plan.

For the 2012 grant process, six project grant applications were submitted to the CTIB on September 7 and two grant applications (Northstar Commuter Rail Anoka County Station and Bottineau Transitway Project Development) will be submitted on October 9, all to receive funding during CY 2013. The attached table lists the project name, grant applicant, funding requested, provides a short description of the project and a recommendation regarding the project's consistency with the 2030 TPP. It is recommended that all of the applications be found consistent with the plan.

Washington County, which receives a guaranteed amount of 3% of the sales tax revenues, did not submit a project application for 2013 and asked that the earned amount be deferred for programming until next year. In addition, it was determined that the Southwest LRT project, which received CTIB grants in 2010 for \$7,000,000, in 2011 for \$12,200,000 and in 2012 for \$13,562,000 for preliminary engineering activities, would not require additional CTIB disbursements for these activities during 2013. It is the Council's intent to request later this fall that CTIB provide a future commitment for \$23 million for the remainder of CTIB's 60% share of preliminary engineering activities.

Rationale

Under state law, the projects cannot be funded until a determination has been made by the Council regarding the project's consistency with the transit portion of the Council's Transportation Policy Plan. The consistency finding will allow the CTIB to award grants to the project applicants for CY 2013.

Funding

None required. The amount of the Bottineau request is being finalized by Council staff and will be reported at the October 10 Council meeting.

Known Support / Opposition

No known opposition.