

Transportation Committee

Meeting date: July 8, 2013

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of July 24, 2013

Subject: 2013-2016 TIP Amendment for Minnesota River Crossing project at the Old Cedar Avenue Bridge in Bloomington

District(s), Member(s): Elkins – 5; Chávez - 15

Policy/Legal Reference: TAB Action

Staff Prepared/Presented: Arlene McCarthy, Director (651-602-1754)

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Division/Department: Transportation/Metropolitan Transportation Services

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council concur with the Transportation Advisory Board (TAB) action to amend the 2013-2016 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to add the Minnesota River Crossing project at the Old Cedar Avenue Bridge in 2014 using \$2,000,000 of federal Paul S. Sarbanes Transit in the Parks program funds, \$3,000,000 of state bonding, and \$9,000,000 in local funds.

Background

In 2012, the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) awarded \$2,000,000 of federal Paul S. Sarbanes Transit in the Parks program funds for the Minnesota River crossing at the Old Cedar Ave. Bridge project. These funds were transferred to the City of Bloomington through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Minnesota National Wildlife Refuge. The total cost of the project is \$14,000,000. The project will be funded using the additional \$2,000,000 in federal funds from the FTA (now transferred to the FHWA), \$3,000,000 in state bonds awarded to the City of Bloomington, and \$9,000,000 from local TIF dedicated as part of the 2013 Omnibus Tax Bill (Fiscal Disparities funds to be treated as local TIF).

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. The project is consistent with the Transportation Policy Plan and meets fiscal constraint because the federal and local funds are sufficient to fully fund the project. The Minnesota Interagency Air Quality and Transportation Planning Committee determined that the project was exempt from air quality conformity analysis.

Funding

The project being added with this amendment is fully funded with these new funds.

Known Support / Opposition

No known opposition.