

Transportation Committee

Meeting date: September 9, 2013

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of September 25, 2013

Subject: 2014-2017 Transportation Improvement Program

District(s), Member(s): All

Policy/Legal Reference: TAB Action

Staff Prepared/Presented: Arlene McCarthy, Director (651-602-1754)
Mark Filipi, Manager, MTS Technical Services (651-602-1725)
Heidi Schallberg, Senior Planner (651-602-1721)

Division/Department: Transportation/Metropolitan Transportation Services

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council:

1. Concur with the Transportation Advisory Board (TAB) action to adopt the 2014-2017 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for the Twin Cities metropolitan area.
2. Certify that the Twin Cities Metropolitan Planning Process is being carried on in conformance with all applicable federal requirements of:
 - a. Section 134 of Title 23, U.S.C., Section 8 of the Federal Transit Act (49 U.S.C. app. 1607);
 - b. Sections 174 and 176 (c) and (d) of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7504, 7506 (c) and (d));
 - c. Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of the 1964 and Title VI assurance executed by each state under 23 U.S.C. 324 and 29 U.S.C. 794;
 - d. Section 1101 (g) of the Transportation Equity Act of the 21st Century (Pub. L. 105-178) regarding the involvement of disadvantaged business enterprises in FHWA and FTA-funded planning projects (Pub. L. 97-424, Section 105 (f); 49 CFR part 23); and
 - e. The provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act (Pub. L. 101-336, 104 Stat. 327, as amended) and USDOT regulations (Transportation for Individuals with Disabilities 40 CFR parts 27, 37, and 38).
3. Certify the TIP conforms with the provisions of 49 CFR part 20 regarding lobbying restrictions on influencing certain federal activities.
4. Find that the TIP is consistent with the Transportation Policy Plan, which is in conformance with applicable federal transportation and air quality regulations.
5. Find that the TIP meets all applicable federal requirements.
6. Find that the TAB provided adequate opportunity for public, agency and transit operators involvement through its regular process and special public hearing.
7. Transmit the 2014-2017 TIP along with these comments to the Minnesota Department of Transportation and Minnesota Pollution Control Agency.

Background

The TIP for 2014-2017 is a multi-modal program of highway, transit, bicycle, pedestrian and transportation enhancement projects proposed for federal funding in the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area. The region revises its TIP every year. The TIP is consistent with the most recently updated Transportation Policy Plan adopted by the Metropolitan Council on November 10, 2010, with air quality conformity determination established on February 23, 2011. The inclusion of a specific project in the TIP does not imply an endorsement of the

specific design alternative or engineering details. Inclusion in the TIP is a funding commitment assuming the individual project development process has addressed all local, state or federal requirements. The TAB adopted the 2014-2017 TIP at its August 21, 2013, meeting. The 2014-2017 TIP is attached.

Rationale

The Transportation Advisory Board approves the Transportation Improvement Program, and the Metropolitan Council concurs with the action of the TAB. The 2014-2017 TIP is consistent with the Transportation Policy Plan, adopted by the Metropolitan Council on November 10, 2010, with FHWA/FTA conformity determination established on February 23, 2011. The Minnesota Interagency Air Quality and Transportation Planning Committee identified regionally-significant projects as part of its conformity analysis for the 2014-2017 TIP, which is included as Appendix B. The analysis in the attachment has resulted in a Conformity Determination that the projects included in the 2014-2017 TIP meet all relevant regional emissions analysis and budget tests. The 2014-2017 TIP conforms to the relevant sections of the Federal Conformity Rule and to the applicable sections of Minnesota State Implementation Plan for air quality. Public input was provided during a 45-day public comment period. A separate public comment report details the comments received.

Funding

The federal, state, and local funds are sufficient to fully fund the projects included in the 2014-2017 TIP.

Known Support / Opposition

The Council and MnDOT cooperatively develop the TIP. The TAB held a public hearing on June 19, 2013, and provided a 45-day public comment period. The TAB reviewed and accepted the public comment report, which included project sponsor changes made in the final TIP. No opposition to the adoption of the TIP was noted.