

Transportation Committee

Meeting date: April 14, 2014

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of: April 30, 2014

Subject: Concur with Transportation Demand Management project funding

District(s), Member(s): All

Policy/Legal Reference: TAB Action

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

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Division/Department: Transportation/Metropolitan Transportation Services (MTS)

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council concur with the Transportation Advisory Board (TAB) action to award Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) funds to seven transportation demand management (TDM) projects at the recommended funding level per the attachment.

Background

The Metropolitan Council released the CMAQ TDM solicitation at its September 25, 2013 meeting for \$1.2 million in available funds. The application deadline was November 6, 2013, with 13 submitted applications requesting \$2,091,679 in funding.

Evaluation criteria included: (1) project clarity and readiness; (2) integration and coordination; (3) innovation; (4) impact on congestion; and (5) impact on air quality. A scoring committee was established with representatives from: Metro Transit Service Development; MnDOT Metro District; Metropolitan Transportation Services; Best Buy; and an independent consultant with a background in TDM.

Six projects are recommended to be fully-funded and one partially funded.

After the scoring process was completed, Tele-Commuter Resources submitted an appeal. The appeal was addressed in the manner described in the solicitation packet. The score improved slightly, but did not result in a change in the rankings.

Rationale

The TAB is responsible for soliciting and evaluating projects to receive the federal transportation funding allocated to the region. The Council reviews the TAB actions for consistency with regional goals and plans and concurs with actions it finds to be consistent.

Funding

The \$1.2 million in available funding is the result of previous conversations with the TAB and results of the 2010 TDM Evaluation and Implementation Study. \$600,000 is anticipated to be available annually and the intent is to offer a solicitation every other year for \$1.2 million.

Known Support / Opposition

Action supported by TAB. No known opposition.

Attachment

Business Item No. 2014-84

Sponsor	Project	Description	Funding Request	Funding Recommended
Metro Transit	Mobile App	Create a mobile app for iOS and Android phones. Improve service for existing riders, new riders, and out of town visitors. Improved data collection for Metro Transit	\$300,000	\$300,000
Cycles for Change	Earn-a-Bike	A training program that provides free bicycles, locks, and helmets upon completion of service hours. Promote bicycle use in underserved communities.	\$230,136	\$230,136
494 Commuter Services	Telework Week	Summit and campaign using existing resources to maximize exposure to and comfort with telecommuting, for employers and employees.	\$80,000	\$80,000
University of Minnesota	eWorkplace	Outreach to employers to create awareness of the benefits of telework. Consulting and training to encourage lasting change within organizations and for employees.	\$300,000	\$300,000
HEC/HourCar	Multi-modal Access Pass	Integrate the HourCar member access keyfob with the Metro Transit Go To Card technology. Improve multi-modal accessibility region-wide.	\$144,000	\$144,000
Transit for Livable Communities	Green Transportation Certification	Shift trips from driving to transit, specifically among non-profits along the Green Line. Maximize use of service improvements.	\$74,876	\$74,876
Nice Ride	Infill and Densification	Increase the availability of Nice Ride racks and bicycles in areas with demonstrated high use. Improve Nice Ride availability to recommended standards.	\$300,000	\$70,988